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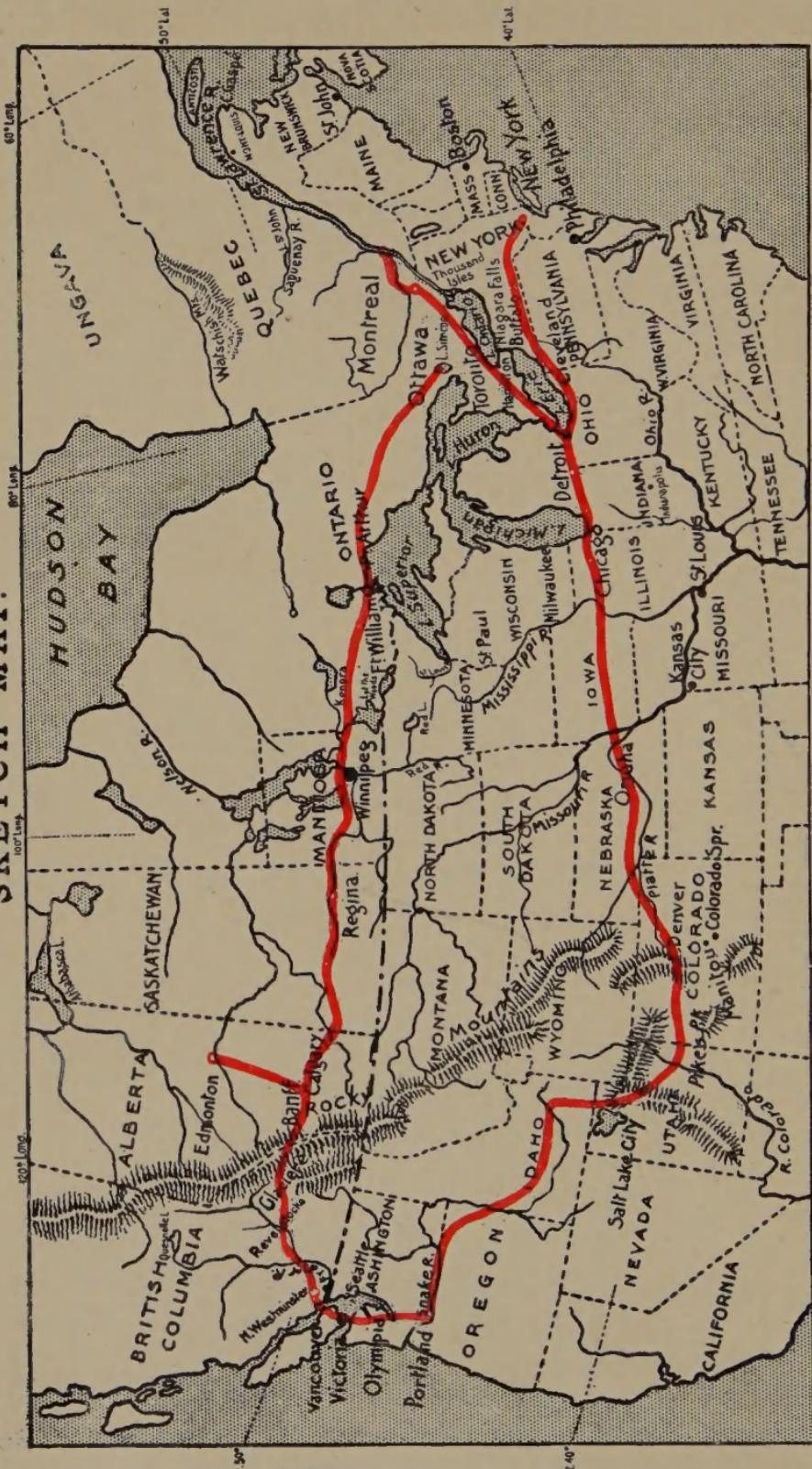


OUR LADY OF THE SUNSHINE  
AND HER INTERNATIONAL VISITORS OF 1909





## SKETCH MAP.



# Our Lady of the Sunshine and Her International Visitors

A SERIES OF IMPRESSIONS WRITTEN BY  
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VARIOUS DELE-  
GATIONS ATTENDING THE QUINQUENNIAL  
MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL  
OF WOMEN IN CANADA, JUNE 1909

EDITED BY

THE COUNTESS OF ABERDEEN  
*President I.C.W.*

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## FOREWORD

I AM asked to add a foreword to this collection of Impressions of Canada, written by representative women of twelve different nationalities in various parts of the Globe, who foregathered in Toronto during the summer of 1909.

They belong to a confederation of women workers of all nations who twenty-one years ago banded themselves together to further the *application of the Golden Rule to Society, Custom and Law*.

Their custom is to meet every five years to report on the progress of the National Councils of Women, now established in eighteen countries, and which are themselves federations of all manner of societies and institutions with which women are connected, and belonging to all creeds, parties, and classes.

At these same Quinquennial Meetings they take counsel with one another as to how further to extend and deepen the work which they have taken in hand, and which has proved so potent a bond of union among the millions of women who are now associated with it.

And so questions of philanthropy, education, public health, social reform, public service, art, music, litera-

## FOREWORD

ture, are brought forward and discussed, together with certain general subjects of propaganda adopted by the unanimous consent of the whole Council. Political and religious questions of a controversial character are alone excluded.

The women who have written the papers contained in this small volume are leaders of the women's movement in their respective countries, and have been elected by their fellow countrywomen to represent them at the notable Council Meeting which took place in Canada this year. Their words carry weight, and as one who rejoices in the possession of many close ties with Canada, I am proud of the impression made upon these distinguished visitors by Canada and her people.

Sixteen years ago I had the privilege of watching over the birth of the National Council of Women of Canada, and subsequently of seeing its rapid development under the guidance of wise, earnest, far-seeing leaders who through it brought the women workers of Canada into close relations with one another in spite of the drawbacks of living so far apart and under so many different laws in the various Provinces of the great Dominion.

And this year, after ten years' absence, I returned once more to Canada, to find the young Council in a position to welcome with all due dignity the representatives of sister Councils from the leading countries of the Old World, and occupying herself so firm a position in the confidence of the Dominion and Provincial Legislation, and of the Municipalities throughout Canada, that the Women's Councils' guests became,

as a matter of course, the personal guests of the country they had come so far to visit.

We cannot gauge the results which will flow from that conference of workers of many nations, held in the beautiful University Halls of Toronto, but one thing is certain : Canada has become known and understood by the women workers of Europe as she has never been before ; and as the Advisory President of the Canadian Council of Women, I beg to thank my dear friends and colleagues for the vivid pictures they have given us of their impressions of Canada, and for their readiness to respond to the efforts made for their comfort and entertainment.

And as President of the International Council of Women, I wish once more to thank Canada and the Canadian Council of Women for having made the Fourth Quinquennial Meeting a unique experience which has greatly strengthened our work, and which can never be forgotten by any who took part in it, and least of all by

ISHBEL ABERDEEN.

VICEREGAL LODGE, DUBLIN.

November, 1909.

#### POSTSCRIPT.

The special thanks of the I.C.W. and of the National Council of Women of Canada are due to the National Council of the Women of the United States for the splendid hospitality and kindness with which they received and entertained the I.C.W. travelling party at their beautiful exposition at Seattle and on their return journey from the U.S.A.



*Photograph by Galbraith, Toronto.*

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN IN SESSION AT THE UNIVERSITY,  
TORONTO





# OUR LADY OF THE SUNSHINE

AND HER INTERNATIONAL VISITORS OF 1909

## UNITED STATES

*Impressions of Canada received during the Quinquennial Meeting of the International Council of Women at Toronto, by KATE WALLER BARRETT, M.D., D.Sc., Proxy for the President of the United States Council of Women.*

To attempt to express in a few sentences the impressions made upon one's mind during the Quinquennial in Toronto is a most difficult and yet pleasant task.

I had visited Canada often before, but as a tourist had but little opportunity of really knowing the people or their home life. During the Quinquennial period, so intimate was the association with the cultured and refined women, and so generous were the representatives of the Government in their hospitality, that we had the rare opportunity of knowing the very heart of the intellectual, social and civic life of the community. Our acquaintances, however, were not confined even to these broad circles, for there was not a messenger boy, or street-car conductor, that did not treat us as if we were their special guests. The

sight of the insignia of the International Council pinned upon our breasts was sufficient introduction to awaken interest or to assure us of the most courteous and considerate treatment.

Amongst the impressions left on my mind, the most vivid is the great value of Governmental recognition, such as the Quinquennial received, in enabling women to do their best work for the nation. Without it, their efforts must necessarily be limited or abortive. The Canadian Government will receive a hundredfold reward in the effective work of its women, because of its generous attitude towards this Quinquennial.

The clean, well-ordered, prosperous cities, with the splendid public buildings, universities, churches, schools, and palatial homes of Canada, are well known to all. They made their due impression upon us, but after all it was the happy country people, in their simple lives upon the farms and in the villages, which impressed me even more.

It was my privilege to make a trip through the Muskoka Lake regions as the guest of Mrs. Sanford on the interesting occasion of the party she arranged for Lady Aberdeen. I had an opportunity of seeing at close range something of the rural life of the Canadians. Nothing could be more impressive than the happiness and contentment of these simple people. Their patriotism is unbounded. Canada is to them, indeed, the garden spot of the world ; but while rejoicing in the prosperity and splendid future of their country, the loyalty which they displayed and the intense eagerness with which they listened to every word brought to them by the delegates from the "Mother Country" were

beautiful to behold. Though the Crown can boast no more loyal subjects, the Canadian people are a Nationality in themselves.

Among the most interesting delegates and those actively alive to the advancement of woman were the Canadian delegates from the far West. We heard from their own lips the story of the early days, when, so many miles in advance of civilisation, they made for themselves attractive and comfortable homes, where contentment and happiness are found in the home circles, far removed from any other human habitation, and where the only resources for pleasure and development were those from within themselves. The contrast between this law-abiding people and their conservatism with what one usually expects to find in what is almost frontier life was also remarkable. As we recalled the teeming millions in the crowded industrial sections of Great Britain, we could not but wish that we could hasten the time when they might discover this Arcadia for themselves and their children. Great numbers have already done so, and each year at the harvest-tide British and Italian, Finn and Swede, Russian and Pole, German, and even the neighbours from just over the border, push side by side, hope in their eyes, their little family clinging to them, into this wonderful undeveloped country—Western Canada. It impresses one that here could be more appropriately applied the name Israel Zangwill, in his widely discussed play, calls the United States, "the Melting Pot," the crucible into which all nationalities are thrown, and from which will emerge a new and triumphant race. And in this era it is a question whether the woman will not become the

leader. At least she will stand equal with the man in the making of the country, toiling with her hands as well as radiating her influence.

Splendid as her natural resources are, progressive as her development has become, fine as her vigorous, aggressive men are, yet it is upon the women of Canada that my mind likes best to dwell. Independent, reliable, resourceful and womanly are the adjectives which seem best to describe them. As an American woman, long resident in Canada, said, "If the men of Canada failed in properly governing the Dominion, the women could do it themselves."

The Quinquennial proved beyond a doubt that women are as capable of organising and conducting a Congress of as vast importance and diversified interests, and of handling all the multitudinous details in connection with the same, with the effectiveness and thoroughness that characterise the work of men, who have had hundreds of years of training in public life. Every woman who attended the Quinquennial must have returned home feeling a better and stronger woman for having had this experience, and with her respect for her sex immensely increased. This of itself would be a grand gain for the cause of womanhood, because, after all, it is only when women respect womanhood as men respect manhood that we can hope to gain and hold the respect and confidence of men.

A group of women that all women will delight to recall with admiration and sincere respect are our International officers. The grace and poise with which our International President fulfilled her arduous duties, the executive ability and facility which the Correspond-

ing Secretary showed upon every occasion, the business capacity of our Treasurer, the beauty and sweetness of our First Vice-President, the honoured President of the German National Congress, will ever remain in our minds as a beautiful picture of the highest development of womanhood.

I am glad that I am a woman. I am glad that I am living in this beautiful age of the world's activity and development, and am especially glad that I had the privilege of being one of the representatives of the National Council of Women at this great historical meeting.

KATE WALLER BARRETT.

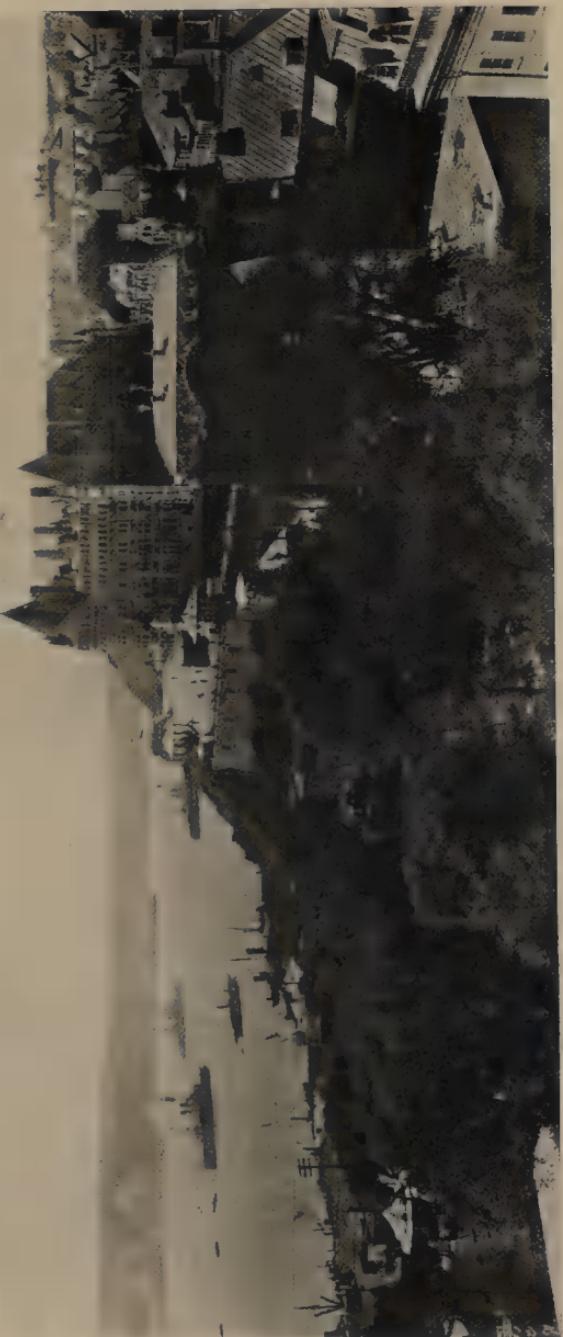
## DEUTSCHLAND

*Die Reise nach dem Westen. Von FRAU MARIE STRITT,  
erste stellvertretende Vorsitzende und Vorsitzende  
des Bundes deutschen Frauenvereine.*

Wenn Generalversammlung und Kongreß in Toronto, entsprechend dem von unseren alten Kulturländern grundverschiedenen Milieu des Landes, auch manche neuen, eigenartigen Züge, manche interessanten, charakteristischen „Lokaltöne“ aufwiesen, so bewegten sie sich doch im großen Ganzen in Arbeit und Erholung auf den gewohnten Linien. Etwas ganz neues aber, etwas noch nie dagewesenes und zugleich die Krone der ganzen Veranstaltungen brachte uns das wundervolle Nachspiel — der vielbesprochene “trip” nach dem Westen, der drei Wochen voll unbeschreiblich großartiger Eindrücke umfaßte und wohl allen Teilnehmerinnen in unauslöschlicher Erinnerung bleiben wird. Wer ursprünglich den Plan ausgedacht, weiß ich nicht — jedenfalls aber erwies sich der Gedanke der Kombinierung einer inoffiziellen Vergnügungstour mit einer halboffiziellen „Missionsreise“ als ein sehr glücklicher, und es gebührt vor allem der Veranstalterin Mrs. Cummings, die ihn mit soviel Umsicht, Tatkraft und Opferwilligkeit — oft unter den erschwerendsten Umständen — ins Werk setzte, der wärmste Dank.

Etwa 100 Teilnehmerinnen, unter ihnen etwa zwei

QUEBEC AND THE ST. LAURENCE





Drittel Delegierte des I. C. W. und Kongreßbesucherinnen "from over the seas," ein Drittel Kanadierinnen und Amerikanerinnen, waren in dem aus drei Pullman-, einem Tourist- (gewöhnlicher I. Klasse-Wagen) und einem Speisewagen bestehenden Extrazug untergebracht, der sich am 1. Juli von Toronto aus nach dem Westen in Bewegung setzte und uns vorläufig bis an die Küste des stillen Ozeans beherbergen sollte. Viele gute Wünsche alter und neuer I. C. W.-Freunde begleiteten uns, die Vorsitzende Lady Aberdeen kam trotz der späten Nachtstunde und des Dominion day-Trubels noch „an Bord“, um nach ihren „Kindern“ zu sehen und ihnen glückliche Fahrt und Heimkehr zu wünschen. Aber auch an düsteren Prophezeiungen in Bezug auf Beschwerlichkeiten aller Art, Hitze, Staub, Unbequemlichkeit der Schlaf- und Ankleidegelegenheiten &c. &c. hatte es nicht gefehlt. Die letzteren erwiesen sich jedoch als lange nicht so schlimm, wenigstens wurden sie von den Unnehmlichkeiten selbst der Eisenbahnhfahrt als solcher reichlich aufgewogen, und die guten Wünsche gingen trotz mancher Fährlichkeiten, die wir zu bestehen hatten, in vollem Umfang in Erfüllung.

Nach einem dreiwöchentlichen Aufenthalt in den gastlichen Städten Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, und nach einer ebenso langen Fahrt im Fluge hin und zurück über den ungeheueren amerikanischen Continent kann man nicht von „Land und Leuten in Kanada,“ man kann nur von mehr oder weniger starken „Eindrücken“ sprechen, von einzelnen besonders schönen Bildern, von einzelnen erhabenden Momenten, die sich dem Gedächtniß unauslöschlich einprägten, dabei allerdings auch auf Land und Leute manches scharfe, helle Licht werfend, das sie in ihrer charakteristischen Eigenart zeigte.

Von Quebec bis Victoria, von Seattle bis New York gab es „die größten Dinge der Welt“ zu sehen: die größten Nickelmanen, den größten Binnensee, die größten Kornspeicher, die größten Bäume, die größten Sägemühlen, die größten Goldbarren, die größte Orgel, den größten Tanzsaal, die größte Bergbahn, das größte Settlement, das größte Warenhaus, die größten Wolkenkratzer, u. s. w., u. s. w. Und den Dimensionen dieser „größten Dinge,“ die für unsere auf die kleineren europäischen Verhältnisse eingestellten Augen förmlich betäubend wirkten, entsprach die gewaltige Scenerie, die ihren Hintergrund bildete: die endlosen wogenden Kornfelder und blühenden Prairies, die in ihrer Üppigkeit und Farbenpracht einen solchen Zauber ausübten, daß man Stunden- und Tagelang nichts anderes sehen und doch des Anblicks nicht müde werden konnte; die mächtigen schneebedeckten „Rockies,“ die unmittelbar aus der Ebene aufsteigend wie eine Fata Morgana wirken; die ungeheueren Ströme mit ihren schäumenden Fällen un „Rapids“; die phantastischen Felsengebirge, die sich wie gigantische gotische Dome in die Wolken erheben.

Und nicht nur überwältigend große, auch unbeschreiblich schöne und liebliche Eindrücke haben wir auf dieser Reise empfangen. Die Küste des stillen Oceans im leuchtenden Sonnenuntergang auf der Fahrt von Vancouver nach Victoria, von Victoria nach Seattle, diese wunderbare Vereinigung von Meer- und Hochgebirgszauber—vor allem die märchenhafte Stadt Victoria selbst mit ihrem interessanten Völkergemisch von anglo-sächsischen und germanischen Typen, von Chinesen, Japanern, Hindus, die aus dem Meere aufzusteigen scheint, in dem sich die Kette der schneeschimmernden Rockies spiegelt—oder den Blick aus dem luftigen, blumengeschmückten Zelt in Edmonton hinüber

über das tiefe Tal des Red River nach der Schwesternstadt Strathcona—wer, der sie jemals gesehen, könnte diese Herrlichkeiten vergessen, so unwirklich, so traumhaft sie auch im Augenblick wirkten.

Aber auch diese größten und schönsten Natureindrücke waren nicht das größte und schönste, was uns Kanada bot. Auch sie mußten zurücktreten vor der Macht, die die Welt bewegt und zusammenhält, vor dem Zauber warmer, herzlicher Sympathie, der diejenigen auch menschlich einander nahe bringt, die ein gleiches Streben, eine gleiche Ueberzeugung erfüllt. Was uns an Beweisen dieser Sympathie, an herzlichem Willkommen, an überströmender Gastlichkeit, an erhebenden Eindrücken vom ersten Augenblick an, in dem unser Fuß kanadischen Boden betrat, geboten wurde, überstieg alles bisher erlebte und entsprach auch nach dieser Richtung den landesüblichen Dimensionen. Und immer und überall ging der Strom vollen Verstehens und jenes Solidaritätsempfindens, das heute die Frauen der Kulturwelt in gleichem Streben verbindet, hinüber und herüber, machte uns die Fremde zur Heimath und unsere Gastgeber zu vertrauten Freunden—vor allem, wenn es uns vergönnt war in ihrem eigenen Heim auch Blicke in ihr persönliches und ihr Familienleben zu tun. Mußten wir dabei auch manchmal fast mit Beschämung des Wandels der Zeiten und der großen Vorkämpferinnen in allen Ländern gedenken, die uns die neuen Wege gewiesen, den Boden überall bereitet haben, und die für dieselben Ideen, die uns Türen und Herzen öffneten, nur Spott und Hohn, Anfeindung und Verfolgung ernteten—so hielt doch die wehmütige Erinnerung der schönen Gegenwart gegenüber nicht lange Stand. Als ein Triumph der neuen Zeit,

als ein Triumph der Frauenbewegung hat diese herrliche Reise durch Kanada auch eine symbolische Bedeutung nicht nur für diejenigen, die daran teilnehmen durften, sondern für alle, die „dazu gehören.“

Marie Stritt.

(Nach dem „Centralblatt des Bundes deutscher Frauenvereine.“)

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[TRANSLATION.]

*The Journey to the West. By FRAU MARIE STRITT,  
First Vice-President, and President of the German  
National Council of Women. ]*

THOUGH the General Meeting and the Council in Toronto presented many new and peculiar features, and much also in the way of "local colour" (corresponding to the social conditions of the country), which was essentially different from that of the European States, the labours and the entertainments that accompanied them proceeded for the most part on familiar lines.

An entirely new feature, and one that constituted the crowning interest of the whole programme, was the wonderful accessory—the much-talked-of "trip" to the West—and our three weeks there, full of indescribably grand impressions. They will remain ever indelibly imprinted upon the memories of all who took part in it. I do not know who first thought of the idea, but the project of combining an unofficial tour of pleasure with a semi-official missionary expedition proved a very happy one; and our warmest thanks are in the first place due to Mrs. Cummings, to whom the arrange-

ments were entrusted, for the ability with which she carried them out with so much foresight and unselfishness, often under most difficult circumstances.

On the first of July, a party of about a hundred ladies, of whom nearly two-thirds were delegates of the International Council of Women and visitors to the Congress "from over the seas," and one-third Canadian or American ladies, started from Toronto for the West in the special train, composed of three Pullman cars, one Tourist (or First Class) car, and a Restaurant car, which was to be our hotel until we reached the shores of the Pacific Ocean. Many kind wishes of old and new friends of the International Council of Women accompanied us, but we received also not a few sinister warnings regarding difficulties of every kind—heat, dust, and inconveniences of sleeping and toilet arrangements. The last, however, turned out by no means so very formidable: and they were certainly amply counterbalanced by the pleasures even of the railway journey itself, whilst all the kind wishes were fulfilled in their widest sense, notwithstanding the many difficulties we had to meet with.

After a three-weeks' stay in the hospitable cities of Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto, and after a tour of equal duration hither and thither across the immense American continent, it is impossible to speak of land and people in Canada, but only of more or less striking impressions, of particularly striking pictures, and of individual thrilling moments that fixed themselves indelibly on the memory, throwing, it is true, in the meantime, many a sharp, clear light also

upon land and people, revealing their characteristic peculiarities.

From Quebec to Victoria, from Seattle to New York, we had to see "the largest things in the world"—the largest nickel mines, the largest lake, the largest grain-elevators, the largest trees, the largest saw-mills, the largest ingots of gold, the largest organ, the largest ball-room, the largest mountain-road, the largest settlement, the largest warehouse, the largest skyscrapers, &c., &c. And corresponding to the dimensions of these "largest things," which had a positively astounding effect upon our eyes, accustomed to the smaller European dimensions, was the mighty scenery that formed their background: the endless waving corn-fields and flowering prairies, which with their luxuriance and blaze of colours exercised such a charm over us that for hours and days, though nothing else was to be seen, our regard could not weary of them; the mighty snow-clad Rockies, which suddenly rise out of the plain with the effect of a *fata morgana*; or the immense rivers, with their foaming falls and rapids; and the fantastic mountains, which raise themselves to the clouds like gigantic Gothic cathedrals.

But in the course of our journey we gathered not only overpoweringly great, but also indescribably beautiful and lovely impressions. Who that had once seen them could ever forget scenes so glorious as those presented by the shores of the Pacific Ocean in the brilliant sunset on the journey from Vancouver to Victoria, from Victoria to Seattle, the wonderful combination of the charms of sea and mountain? or, above all, the fairy-

like city of Victoria itself, with its interesting medley of nations, of Anglo-Saxon and German types, of Chinese, Japanese, and Hindoos? The city that seems to rise out of the sea, in which the chain of the Rocky Mountains, glittering with snow, is reflected; or the view from the breezy, flower-adorned tent in Edmonton, across the vale of the Red River towards the sister town of Strathcona? Who could ever forget the impressions, so real and yet so dream-like, which these scenes awoke?

Yet even these glorious and most beautiful impressions of nature were not the greatest nor the most beautiful things which Canada had to offer us. Even they must yield to the power which moves the world and holds it together, must yield to the warm and hearty magic of sympathy which brings together into closest personal bonds those who are engaged in the same work and share the same convictions. This sympathy was offered us in the shape of the heartiest welcomes, of an overflowing hospitality, from the first moment of our setting foot on Canadian soil. It surpassed all we had ever met with elsewhere, and corresponded with the dimensions of the country. Always and everywhere we encountered the same mutual understanding, and that sense of solidarity which to-day unites the women of the whole civilised world in a single aim. It made homes for us in a foreign land, and trusty friends of our hosts. This was more particularly the case when we were allowed to see something of their own homes, of their personal characters, and of their family life. We were often compelled to remember with shame the old times, and the

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great women who have laboured as pioneers in all lands, who in all directions have prepared the soil for our work, and earned only scorn and persecution for those very same ideas which for us opened doors and hearts. But recollections of this sad kind resisted only for a little while the impressions of the happy present.

As a triumph of the new times, and a triumph of the Women's movement all over the world, this glorious journey through Canada has also a symbolic significance, not only for those who were able to take part in it, but for all who "belong to us."

MARIE STRITT.

(*From the "Centralblatt," the official Journal of the National Council of Women of Germany.*)

MAIN BUILDING OF THE MACDONALD COLLEGE, ST. ANNE'S





## SWEDEN

*The Impressions of the Swedish Delegation concerning the Meeting of the I.C.W. in Canada.*

### I

#### THE ARRIVAL, THE COUNCIL, AND THE CONGRESS

THE National Council of Women of Sweden had sent to the Quinquennial meeting and Congress of the I.C.W. seven delegates, of whom Dr. Alexandra Skoglund and the Baroness Ellen v. Platen belong to the Executive Committee of the National Council of Women of Sweden. It is to be very much regretted that the Hon. Fru Anna Hierta-Ketsius, second Vice-President of the I.C.W., Honorary President, and, most generous supporter of the National Council of Women of Sweden, could not be present. To our regret the newly elected President of the National Council of Women of Sweden, Fru Eva Upmark, was also prevented from coming.

The Swedish Government had granted to the National Council of Women of Sweden 1500 Sw. crowns for the representation of the Council, which sum was given to Fröken Alexandra Skoglund, D.Ph., Honorary Recording Secretary of the Swedish National Council. The same amount the Government had granted to the Fredrika Bremer Association, affiliated with the Swedish National Council. This grant was given to Fröken Arianne Thorstenson, B.A.,

the Secretary of the Fredrika Bremer Association. Besides these representatives the following delegates from Sweden attended the Congress: Fröken Sigfrid Ulrick, the former Honorary Secretary of Fredrika Bremer Association, and the Countess Anna Lagerberg (Fredrika Bremer Association), the Baroness Ellen v. Platen (The Charity Organisation Society), Fröken Hedvig Walmström, M.D. (President of the Society of Women Directors of Gymnastics), and Fröken Inez Laurell, M.D. (The Ladies' Society of the Swedish Red Cross).

We have been asked to say a few words about our impressions of the visit of the I.C.W. in Canada. The first we saw coming to Canada was its scenery, beautiful, grand; then we met the Canadian hospitality, wide, embracing, splendid as the scenery of Canada. Then we became acquainted with Canadian women and men and learnt about their institutions and work to raise the Canadian people. We found that the National Council of Women of Canada was a very important factor in the progress of the women.

The rich programme of the Congress showed that the Canadian women have interests in every branch of woman's work. They are interested in political, municipal and social questions, they are active in raising the women morally and economically, they work with success for education, but above all the Canadian women's work aims to raise the women in their home and home life.

The deep respect of the men for the women made a great impression upon us. The men regard the women's work as well at home as in social life as an

essential contribution to society at large. The great esteem with which the men regarded the women was shown by their sincere and kindly interest in the I.C.W.'s Quinquennial Meeting and Congress.

One of our impressions of the Congress was that most of the papers were very good, some of them brilliant. So many papers were, however, crowded in the Congress that it was impossible to follow them all with the interest which the importance of the subjects really demanded. Therefore, if, as we hope, new National Councils will be affiliated with the I.C.W., and the women be interested in many more questions, the method of arranging future congresses should be on other lines. The programme should be very early, that the National Councils could have enough time to correspond with the National Council that arranges the Congress. It would also be a good thing if all the papers and reports given by each National Council about the same matter were sent in so early that the convener of the section could give a comparative report or paper on the question. Such a method would give a good summary of the subject, much time would be spared, and it would be possible in a short time to get into the subjects. The opportunities the Congress offers of hearing papers from those who have something special to relate concerning their work or ideas could thus be used, and the speakers would be able to impress their hearers in quite a different manner.

One impression more, and it is the deepest of all—the ardent desire to work, to work for others, and to throw one's whole soul in the work.

And last we send our very best thanks to the National Council of Women of Canada for all it has given us, and we beg also to bring our heartfelt thanks to the President of the I.C.W., Her Excellency the Countess of Aberdeen. All the honour and courtesy shown to us was first of all an homage paid to the President of the I.C.W., to whom the Canadian women and men are so deeply indebted.

THE SWEDISH DELEGATION.

II

THE TWENTY-TWO DAYS' TRIP TO THE WEST.

*By BARONESS ELLEN VON PLATEN. Hon. Corresponding Secretary to the National Council of Women of Sweden.*

WE have been asked to write down a few impressions from our "Twenty-two Days' Trip to the West." It is with the greatest pleasure that I am looking back upon this wonderful journey across the American Continent, and I only regret that no one beside myself of our seven Swedish delegates to the I.C.W.'s Congress in Toronto was able to take part in this really royal progress.

Nature and man combined had worked wonders, displayed on our way from the Atlantic to the Pacific Coast, and we went on from admiration to admiration. We now fully realised not only what is *Canada*—its possibilities and marvellous growth. Thanks to this journey we had also a most vivid apprehension of the

enormous strength it gives to a National Council of Women to have Local Councils all over the country. By these means we had always the delightful feeling of being surrounded and received by friends wherever we came with an hospitality and kindness without bonds.

It began at Sudbury, where an opportunity was given to us to visit the greatest nickel mines in the world. From there we passed on to Port Arthur and Fort William, to Winnipeg and Regina, and in each one of these cities the Local Council had arranged a most beautiful reception for us, showing us what was of special interest at every place. Not only the Mayors of the different cities gave us the very heartiest welcome—even the Indians were called upon to pay us their homage; and from the prairies our special train carried us over the Rocky Mountains to British Columbia, to Vancouver and New Westminster, and from thence by boat to Victoria. The hours and days spent in these wonderful cities are never to be forgotten, and it was with great regret that we bade farewell to our kind Canadian hostesses and hosts.

We had not even landed in Seattle before we were received with the same overwhelming hospitality also by their N.C.W., and the whole way through the United States—in Salt Lake City, Denver, Chicago, and Detroit—the municipal authorities joined hands with the Local Councils to make everywhere our stay memories for life.

No wonder that it is with the warmest gratitude and enthusiasm that I shall always tell about this quite exceptional “trip,” which has been so wonderfully well

planned and carried out by the united Local Councils in Canada and the United States. There must have been an enormous work behind, in which Canada's secretary, Mrs. Willoughby Cummings, the indefatigable leader of this tour, has had her very heavy part, and by her kindness she also won the hearts of everybody.

Still, we are—first of all—indebted more than words can express to our President, Lady Aberdeen, for this beautiful journey. Her name and personality has been an inspiration from east to west—the affection and admiration felt for her Excellency has to a great extent added to the happy recollections of the Quinquennial Reunion in Canada and the United States, 1909.

Women of the most different nationalities and characters have thus travelled together in an exceedingly pleasant and instructive way; personal friendships have been formed, interchange of views upon vital questions to the benefit of their respective countries have been made, which will—so it is our sincere hope—more and more strengthen women all over the world in their work for good homes and good conditions in life for all their sisters.

ELLEN VON PLATEN

(*Hon. Corresp. Secr. to the Swedish N.C.W.*).

I HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT, OTTAWA





## GREAT BRITAIN

*Impressions of the Visit of the International Council of Women to Canada, June, 1909. By MRS. EDWIN GRAY, President of the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland.*

IT is quite certain that everyone who attended the fourth Quinquennial Meeting of the International Council of Women at Toronto will cherish it as one of the most wonderful experiences of her life. The idea of the Council is a most inspiring one. It enables women of varying shades of opinion, but animated by the strong common desire to serve their generation, to improve themselves, to learn from others, and to meet together in their own countries to confer upon matters affecting the home, and the nation, from the woman's point of view; it also enables the eighteen affiliated countries to meet through their elected delegates, who form the International Council, and to discuss these same questions from the larger, wider standpoint. Each nation can learn something from the others; those who are the more advanced in freedom and social well-being bringing hope and knowledge to those who are behind; suggesting methods of work and ideals to be aimed at; each sympathising with and learning to understand the struggles and needs of the others. It is marvellous

how quickly we got to understand and appreciate one another, making many real friends whom we shall keenly look forward to meeting again.

Through the International Council, our outlook becomes widened, our sympathies with other countries awakened, our knowledge of them increased, and our desire for and belief in universal peace and good international feeling intensified.

I was much struck with the enthusiasm that prevailed at all our meetings—enthusiasm which showed itself in the practical way of being willing to sit many hours for the transaction of pure business while the thermometer stood at 90 degrees Fahrenheit! I was much pleased with the good common sense shown by the Council, and the moderation with which even advanced women put forward their suggestions, giving way to the opinions of the majority with perfect good temper, and showing their eager desire to understand the various views of the different nationalities. It was really a great lesson, for instance, to see the keen Peace advocate, Mrs. May Wright Sewell, adapt herself to the more moderate opinions of the representatives of countries who felt that at present any question of disarmament must be set aside.

The language difficulty, no doubt, at times makes the meetings a little long, but it is surprising how many of the delegates know English, which was spoken more than any of the three official languages. The resolution in favour of Esperanto did not meet with much support.

The reports of the various countries, as of the Sectional Committees, were intensely interesting. It

was thrilling to be taken, as it were, right into the heart of the nation by its representative there before you, who told of its troubles and needs, and of the efforts of its women to heal and to comfort. Every heart throbbed in sympathy with Italy when the Marchese Bombon del Monte spoke of the disastrous earthquake and of its terrible effects ; similarly, everyone rejoiced with Norwegian women when Fröken Krög proudly spoke of the suffrage they had gained, and told us that the Norwegian Government had actually paid the expenses of two delegates, thus recognising the importance of the International Council, and of the work of women.

The meetings were happy and memorable, and we were all grateful to our President for the kindly, gracious way in which she presided over us, and for the knowledge and enthusiasm she so freely gives to the Council. We all rejoiced in her re-election as President.

The high ideals and the inspiration of the meetings will always be first in our remembrance of this wonderful visit to Canada, but next will come the manner of our reception ; and here it is difficult to find words eloquent enough to describe the really overwhelming generosity, hospitality, and kindness that we received.

Nearly all the British delegates, proxies, and visitors travelled by the *Laurentic*, and from the moment of our landing at Quebec, that beautiful old French city standing at the gateway of the mighty river St. Lawrence, we were feted and entertained in a manner that can only be described as "royal."

The Canadians, both French and English, left

nothing undone throughout our stay that could add to our pleasure, interest, and comfort; not only did the Government and Municipal authorities receive us publicly, but in quite small, unobtrusive ways private people showered kindnesses upon us. We were made to feel thoroughly at home in this part of "Britain beyond the Seas." Canadians were one and all delighted to welcome back Lady Aberdeen, who had won so many hearts and done so much good work during her time there; and no doubt it was partly due to this desire to honour her that the International Council was received with so much consideration. We can only hope that we may all of us have opportunities of returning to our Canadian sisters some small portion of this open-handed hospitality.

We have learnt many things, upon which I can only just touch here. One is the great care we ought to exercise in the selection of aided emigrants; we must study Canada's needs, and recognise that she does not want our ne'er-do-wells of any class. Life and work in Canada are very strenuous; she has no use for a man who wants a "soft job." We must solve our problems in some other way than by sending her our mis-fits. I came to the conclusion that, as a rule, the younger the emigrants are the better, in order that they may adapt themselves to the different conditions obtaining there. I had a talk with Mr. Smart, Chief Inspector of British emigrant children and Receiving Officer of Canada, and have since read his report, which shows how excellently well the majority of the children sent out have succeeded. In this connection I could not help hoping that we shall shortly take steps to get

women inspectors appointed to visit the girls, as it really seems inappropriate and undesirable that a man should undertake this specially woman's work. Perhaps the Canadian Council of Women will inquire into this, and as reports are made to the British Local Government Board, probably the British Council of Women could do something to help, though as it seems that in Canada women get their wishes carried out more quickly than we do, possibly it might be more diplomatic to leave it to them. From what I could learn, there are excellent openings for skilled and capable women.

It was very astonishing, and indeed disconcerting, to find on inquiry that our Government has no representative acting as Commercial Agent in Canada; while the United States, and, in fact, every other civilised country in the world, has not only one, but several agents, whose business it is to give information to the Trade Departments of their respective countries of new openings, contracts, and opportunities for profitable trade. We women must talk to our men about this obvious slackness or oversight on the part of our Colonial Office or Board of Trade.

In conclusion, what can I say about Canada? Her loyalty to the British Throne, her infinite possibilities, her alertness in business, her almost feverish haste to develop her resources, are some of her attributes that struck me forcibly.

The problem of the two races—French and English—living happily under one Government and equally loyal to the British throne, yet apparently mixing but little, and opposed in politics, fascinated me. I had the

pleasure, as a Member of the Executive Committee, of meeting a large number of the Montreal French ladies, and found them very charming and very well informed, full of good works and of interest in social questions.

With regard to social problems, I wondered whether Canada is profiting as much as she might by the mistakes and difficulties of the Old World; whether she is seeking to prevent in order that she may not have to cure. What about the care of the feeble-minded? Are those who are beginning to study the question going to take it up where we are, in scientific knowledge, and realise that the only plan is to begin with the children? What about the crowding together of houses in the districts behind the wide streets and avenues? Are there Town-Planning powers to prevent this when land shall have become very valuable? What about the water supply? Is it safeguarded in every case as much as it might be?

On so short though so intimate an acquaintance, I could not venture an authoritative opinion, but these are some of the questions that occurred to me as I went about with eyes and ears open, inquiring of one and all in my eagerness to know and to understand.

Surely the visit of seventy British women, equally keen to learn, will have some effect in spreading the desire to understand Canada, her importance to the Empire, her aspirations and her needs, and in showing our fellow-countrymen and women that a real necessity exists that they should do so.

ALMYRA GRAY.

TORONTO UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS





## DENMARK

*Impressions of the I.C.W. Council and Congress in Canada, and of the Trip to the Coast, by FRÖKEN ANNA BUCH, President of the National Council of Women of Denmark.*

THE Quinquennial Meeting of the International Council of Women in Toronto in June seemed to me a very successful one. Much good work was done, and I am sure that the new Standing Committees of "Public Health," of "Education," and of "Emigration and Immigration" will give impulse to very useful work in the different National Councils. Also the resolutions trying to get a reduction of Postal and Reply Rates, and the discussion regarding Information Bureaux and their connection with each other, will, I hope, forward the co-operation of women's associations in all countries, which is the aim of the I.C.W. I only regret that there was not time enough to discuss the different resolutions as thoroughly as was desirable.

The Congress, too, was very interesting, but I think that it would have been better if there had been fewer subjects, and these treated from all points of view. The result would in this way probably have been greater. However, many interesting papers were read, and a good idea was given of the great, unselfish work

that is done all over the world to uplift humanity and to help those who need support.

The fact that the meeting was held in the New World gave it a special interest, but the unique hospitality and kindness shown to us, both from the authorities and from private people, made us feel, not in a strange world, but quite at home. From the very moment we set foot on Canadian soil we were Canada's guests, and we were taken care of in every way, and the cordiality that we met with on the part of the Canadians, indeed, made us feel that we all belonged to a great union working for the same cause.

What we saw of the large cities in the East made me admire the beautiful situation and planning of these towns, with their many parks and gardens, their stately public buildings, and their appearance of prosperity.

On the Western Trip arranged for the members of the Congress, I had opportunity to see a great deal of the country and to receive a strong impression of its enormous resources and its great future possibilities. It was of the greatest interest to see the growing towns, that in a few years, from an insignificant collection of houses, have become large, populous cities, with broad, regular streets, stretching straight out into the prairies or the woods, founded with the certainty in view that the town would continue its growth at the same rate. A characteristic example of this I found in Regina, where the Parliament buildings were being constructed, not in the centre of the town, but at a distance out in the prairie ; they were sure that in a short time the town would be out there.

And how interesting it was to see the first settlements in the woods and the prairies, the first beginning of cultivation of these vast territories that will give work and bread to millions and millions. The prairies especially delighted me extremely—the bright pure air, the wide view over the different shades of fresh green with its multitudes of beautiful flowers, make a journey through them very pleasant. Then their contrast, the Rockies, with the grand sceneries, the high, snowy tops, the wild cañons through which the inventive genius of man has led the railway, and further on, high up on the hillsides, on lofty ridges over deep ravines. And at last the Pacific coast, its charming towns with the multitudes of flowers, and the view over the sea with all its islands, and to the splendid snowy mountains.

All this may be seen by every tourist, but our journey through Canada was made so much more pleasant and interesting through the extraordinary hospitality shown to us everywhere; and the opportunities it offered of speaking with the inhabitants gave us more insight into the condition of life than we should otherwise have got in so short a time. The fact that we were received also by the authorities, and that at public meetings and social assemblies we had opportunities of speaking about the International Council of Women, no doubt has contributed to spread the knowledge and interest concerning its work, and I hope that the personal acquaintance and exchange of thoughts between so many women of different nations all over the world will help to further its object in the future.

30        OUR LADY OF THE SUNSHINE

At any rate, I bring home with me the memory of a beautiful country with great future possibilities, and of an able and amiable nation which made our sojourn extraordinarily interesting and suggestive.

ANNA BUCH.



A GROUP OF THE I.C.W. TRAVELLERS AT REGINA



## THE NETHERLANDS

*Impressions of the visit of the I.C.W. to Canada.* By  
ELIZABETH BAELDE, President of the National  
Council of Women of the Netherlands.

A WELL-KNOWN legend comes to my mind about two knights: the one came from the East, the other from the West. They met near a monument. The one admired it because its marble was so pure and *white*; the other thought it was a tombstone, because it was quite *black*. There was no *Peace* movement in those days; on the contrary, they were on the point of beginning a murderous fight, when by changing places they perceived just in time that both were right, and both were wrong; the monument was *black* on one side, and *white* on the other.

When the women of the International Council of Women meet, they also come from East and West, from South and North; they certainly do not want to fight; on the contrary, feelings of deep sympathy move them, and if they are received and welcomed with such great hospitality and enthusiasm as they were in Canada, they cannot but see everything harmoniously in the same colour, viz., the most beautiful one. Nevertheless we *came* from all parts of the world with widely different ideas, and it is quite certain that many

called black what others thought white. But we met with the firm intention to consider matters from all points of view, and the delegates of the different Councils travelling to Toronto helped to reduce the distance that separates the nations, thus making the world smaller to mankind and at the same time widening the ideas for humanity.

It was more so, now that we met in the New World. It is true that many old friends of the Council were prevented from travelling so far (we missed France and Switzerland sorely), but on the other hand, how many new friends did we make, how many fresh impressions did we gain! Yes, it was right that the Old World came to the New. However, it makes it very difficult to write down in a few words what impressed us most. When the seed has been sown so plentifully, the plants can only grow after the seeds have rest in the earth, and they must bloom to give fruit; and thus, much that we saw, seeming strange to us at first sight, after having been thought over, so that it ripened in our minds, proved to be a natural consequence of circumstances. But why always try to explain everything? This was one of the lessons Canada seemed to teach. It appeared as if everybody enjoyed life so much more than in the Old World. "We are such a young country," everybody said, "and look what we have done already." It was this gladness of youth that charmed us. The cheerful song: "O Canada, O Canada," which welcomed us at MacDonald's College, seemed to sound all over the country.

All at once we felt how the ballast of centuries of convention is weighing heavily on Europe. It must

be the happy feeling of beginning something fresh that is reigning all over the land. On our trip to the West we spoke to a great many persons of different nations, who, for a longer or shorter time, had been living in Canada, and they all agreed: they would not like to return to live in Europe! And most of them had fought a hard struggle before succeeding, or were still working hard to succeed. These autobiographies were surely not the least valuable part of our experiences. At the Congress we heard much that awakened our interest, and seeing city halls, universities, libraries, and many other beautiful buildings in towns, that on other points showed how rapid had been their growth, we became very eager to know how this had been brought about. On our visit to the Experimental Farm in Ottawa, also, many questions rose to our mind, and found kind answer; much was explained to us there; but while travelling through the country from St. Lawrence River to English Bay, and speaking to those who were living and working there, we saw theory in action, and all became clearer still.

One of the favourite sports of human beings is to compare, and certainly the inhabitants of the New World are human in this way. They not only asked us if we liked the Hudson better than the Rhine, if any of the Norwegian Falls could equal the Niagara, and if Banff and the Canadian Rockies were grander than Switzerland (questions very difficult to reply to in a few words), but they also were anxious to know how far the women's movement was in our own country in comparison to theirs, thus putting before us a more painful dilemma. I am sure this also will be one of

the first questions put to us at home. I think it best not to compare. The position of women in Canada is so entirely different from that in many countries in the Old World. One thing, however, struck me. While formerly, with us, men formed political, literary, scientific, and artistic clubs where no women were admitted, in the New World *women* now seem to club together, excluding men. I think this is just as wrong. Men and women should always work together; we must try to gain men's interest in our work, as well as trying to show men that we are interested in theirs.

No, we must not compare, but try to get on for the best, everyone in his own way, at the same time trying to learn from each other. Not compare—but before finishing I cannot help doing it myself. In some countries of the Old World the authorities shiver at the idea of a Women's Council, and official receptions are rare. Though we perceived that many of the Canadian authorities did not share our opinions on several points, these same gentlemen did not hesitate to open widely the doors of all public buildings and institutions that could be of any interest to us, and official receptions were offered to us all over the country. I think this shows that young countries, in this way, set a good example to older ones, and indicates a broadness of mind we may envy, and which will always be highly appreciated.

ELIZABETH BAELDE.

SARCEE SQUAW OUTSIDE HER PEEPEE





## AUSTRALIA

*Impressions of the Australian Delegates. By MRS. DOBSON,  
President of the Australian Delegation, and by  
MRS. GOUGH, Secretary of the National Council of  
Women of Victoria.*

THE keynote struck on reaching Canadian soil was "Welcome." The Canadian people conjugate that word in a thousand kindly ways.

The Australians reached Victoria, B.C., at dawn from their twenty-one days' journey across the Pacific. Roused up to meet the Health Officer, they found that he had come on board with an armful of dew-wet red roses, a greeting from the President of the Victoria Council of Women. That fragrant message was the prelude to unfailing thoughtfulness and consideration.

At Vancouver, again, "Welcome" from the Council there. A motor-drive through the beautiful Stanley Park, a happy luncheon party at Mrs. Townley's, and a send-off by the C.P.R. to Quebec. Not official greetings these of strange women, but a welcome that spends itself in living thought, and that makes acquaintance, friendship.

Quebec, Montreal, Toronto, the International character of the gathering becoming apparent, the

Australian units finding themselves part of a great sisterhood of earnest women.

Old-World civilisations with their restrictions touching the daring freedom of new continents. Curiosity, questioning the gradual discovery of each other's aims and aspirations, quick friendships from common sympathies. History pieced out from racial characteristics, seeming strong contrasts proving to be only superficial when daily contact revealed the thoughts of each, the work of each, the common hope and purpose of each.

Then German, British, Austrian, Norse, Australian—wherein lay the difference?

The world was girdled by the hand-clasp, the thought fusion of women of all nations, the weft and woof of whose life purpose was the uplift of humanity.

Speech had varying accents, but whether English, German, French, or the broken picturesque English of the gifted women who made a foreign, quaintly accented English their vehicle of expression, a living force underlying it all that made it understandable.

An impression that nothing can ever efface is the experience of the unbounded hospitality of the Canadian women. Their organising ability, their attention to detail, their carrying out of arrangements that found place for hundreds of delegates, that sorted out a plethora of material, and that finally made possible the carrying out of the business of the Council, the social gatherings, the daily pleasant luncheons, the sectional programmes, the great public meetings all in due order, without hitch or confusion, were a revelation. The absolute unselfishness of the

women who volunteered to attend, day after day, to the wearisome detail work of the Information Bureau, Railway Certificate and other Committees, the ushers, the girl graduates, who waited so charmingly at meals —it was a practical object lesson as to what women can accomplish when ability and loving service are blended as happily as in the Canadian women.

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This warm welcome from ocean to ocean appealed very strongly to the Australians. The princely hospitality of Government, civic authorities, and private citizens, the mayors with their insignia of office, the official recognition of the International Council delegates, was a hopeful and interesting prophecy. What a precedent for future quotation!

What did the business meetings of the Council teach? More than anything else they revealed to the Australians, impatient against the slow righting of wrongs, the restrictions and conventionalities of older nations. These liberated women grown accustomed to voice opinion, to criticise freely with the authority of the vote, to emphasise demand and criticism, found themselves in an atmosphere they had only partially experienced and altogether outgrown.

The letters read, the reports submitted, opened up a wonderful vista of change and progress all the world over. Germany, with her schools of philanthropy wherein social science is a practical study; Italy, of all places, with labour legislation enforcing a ten hours' day; Norway, with her qualified woman's suffrage, her women councillors, her friendly co-operation of men and women on public boards; Finland, with her twenty-

five women elected to Parliament; Greece; Russia; Turkey waking up from the lethargy of centuries; Russia waiting for permission to form a Council; Greece and Turkey rousing to the dawn of personal responsibility, the awakening of their womanhood. Health being preached. What a vista of possibilities in all these stirrings of women to new activities!

America with its band of suffragists. Australian women owe much to them, and yet they are denied their rights. They have grown old in the work of educating the ceaseless tide of ever-changing voters. The men of America must approve their claim, but the men of America are not only the native born, but those pouring in from all nations under heaven. Six months' residence in the United States qualified them to say whether an Anna Shaw or a May Wright Sewall are fit to exercise the vote. Curious this to those who have the vote, the problem facing the American women of working on until the claim of abstract justice can penetrate to the semi-developed intelligence of the six months' dweller under the Stars and Stripes.

Suffrage. It was in the air. It can never again be put aside nor talked about in whispers after the individual expressions at this meeting of the women of all nations. It is beyond politics and apart from them, whatever the nationality may be. It is an individual right. It is the only effective corollary to reform, education, philanthropy.

Public Health, Education, the Laws affecting Women and Children, the great sorrowful blot on womanhood, Peace and Arbitration, these were the great symphonies of the Council gatherings.

The practical plan of early comparison, unfolded by Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon in the I.C.W. compilation "Health of the Nations," shows the proposed trend of future work.

The Laws Affecting Women and Children, to be compiled on similar lines, but going further by the preparation of suggestions for amended laws—what will this mean to the women of the nations ?

The proposed plan of Continuity in Education from Kindergarten to University, from Crèche to Factory—what will the upshot of this systematising and comparison of world's methods be ?

The courageous facing of that moral problem, "Equal Moral Standard"—where will it lead ? Will the women of all nations pledged to uphold the inexorable tablets of stone, that were not handed by Moses to the Women of Israel alone, bring out so clearly the writing of Sinai that it will apply equally to both sexes ?

All these ideals we are taking away with us from the Congress. How many of them shall we bring to a practical issue in our several ways ? What harvest of fulfilment shall we bring to our next Quintenennial ?

The possibilities of a peaceful, bloodless, world-wide revolution, through a unified system of philanthropy, education, health, and social reform—this is the task the International Council of Women is accomplishing, this is the surest impression of the Congress.

Of our President, what were our impressions ? The centre, the heart, the motive power of all that vast organisation. A simple, loving woman, with the tact

that is born of a wondrous sympathy, and sound common sense and untiring energy.

### IMPRESSIONS OF THE COUNTRY.

Vastness. Rivers, lakes, torrents an endless chain ; the water wealth of Canada appealed most strongly. The journey through the Selkirks and the Rockies, awe-inspiring, great ribs of the earth, torrent and glacier scored, they stand crowned with eternal snows, sentinels over the great primal world-shaping forces of nature.

The vast prairies, the beginning of towns, towns prosperous and settled, the comfortable plenty of farming districts, lush pastures, purple clover meadows, the sap-filled green luxuriance of woods ; again, lake and river and mountain.

Quebec, Montreal, picturesque old world. Ottawa, Hamilton, Toronto, modern, beautiful. Toronto clean, exquisitely clean, prosperous, its miles of comfortable homes set, unfenced, in an endless lawn of green. The air of prosperity, its fine public buildings and unbounded hospitality will never be forgotten.

Niagara ! But that is a world's wonder.

Simcoe, Muskoka, great inland seas, mirroring bowery, pine-crowned islands, again clover and lush pastures and green woods and daisies. June luxuriance everywhere.

The McGill University, Royal Victoria College, Toronto University, the schools, McDonald and Guelph Colleges, Manitoba's Agricultural College in Winnipeg, and western cities, practical, lifting the common things

of life—dairy, crops, foods, the every-day things, the household—into accurate science.

The great elevators and locks at Port William, the outcome of the marvellous progress of Alberta—the great stock-raising, farming, and mineral province, where the area of 500 acres sown with winter wheat in 1901 had increased to 104,500 in 1908.

The lumber mills, where huge trees, floated from distant forests and hauled from the water by mighty hooks and chains, are run on rails to circular saws and cut into gigantic planks. Everything is colossal.

At Seattle, the city of steep hills, beautiful parks, lakes and restless improvements (where it is said that thunder, lightning, storm and malaria are practically unknown), and where the buildings of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition lie in the most perfect setting of woodland rises, their banks dotted with beds of exquisite flowers, with Lake Washington in the background, the hospitable reception and meeting of the National Council of the United States concluded our portion of the memorable and happy "Western Trip," which, through the extraordinary facilities and privileges everywhere granted to the delegates, has revealed to us, and impressed us with, the vastness and the enormous resources of Canada, a great nation building itself up in a land of unlimited possibilities.

EMILY DOBSON.

EVELYN GOUGH.

## ITALY

### I

*The International Council and Congress of Women at  
Toronto, by the MARCHESA BOURBON DEL MONTE,  
Proxy for the President of the National Council  
of Women of Italy.*

IT is with the greatest pleasure that we shall always remember our visit to Canada on the occasion of the Quinquennial Meeting of the International Council of Women, and of the subsequent Congress, so well organised by the Canadian National Council.

We could not have had a more flattering and exquisite preparation than the hearty hospitality of our unknown but soon to be much appreciated sisters from *over the seas*, the kind welcome publicly and privately bestowed on us by all the political and intellectual authorities of that great Dominion, from Quebec to Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, nor a lovelier frame with the rich green maple trees, surrounding the University buildings, the seat of all our meetings. Such an important gathering was indeed a marvellous event, prominent women of all nationalities, classes, and creeds, who have devoted their whole life to high ideals for the physical and moral welfare of humanity, and who still were glad to take advantage of this recent and useful organisation of the



AN INDIAN POW-WOW



" women workers " of all the world, to obtain and give help according to each one's studies and experience. No envy, no false pride was felt, but only the wish for improvement, and to put in practice the "golden rule": *Do unto others as ye would that others should do unto you.*

Lady Aberdeen, our most appreciated and indefatigable President, gave us the example in every way to keep this noble aim always in view. The Victorian Order of Nurses started by her in Canada, when Lord Aberdeen was Governor-General, is one of her successful Christian works for which Canada is and will ever be warmly grateful to her.

The Congress was opened by Her Excellency the Countess Grey, who takes so deep an interest in this movement of women's thought; and by Lady Edgar, the very efficient President of the Canadian National Council. This Congress showed, in all respects, a marked progress in the ideas and opinions during this last Quinquennial period.

In many branches of Philanthropy and Social Science we were so fortunate as to hear important reports, particularly on Education, on Equal Moral Standard, on Laws concerning women and children, on Health and Physical Training; but, alas! how many others have we also lost! Our only regret was the physical impossibility of following the nine sections at once, each of which was an intellectual treat. We were also greatly struck by what Canada showed us of its practical activities brought to modern perfection, viz. its Schools, Sanatoriums, Hospitals, Libraries, big settlements for Domestic Science, Playgrounds, Experimental Farms,

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exhibits of Handicrafts, conducted by large-minded and large-hearted men and women.

I was impressed by the great respect for earthly and divine authority, so frankly expressed on every occasion, which I feel to be a living force in that country. I had the good fortune to travel across this great continent, in company with about one hundred international delegates, to its furthest western confines, and realised that Nature has lavished on Canada her grandest beauties.

Most grateful are we to the Canadian women, who received us with lordly hospitality, and whose great gifts of earnest, well directed and progressive work we cannot sufficiently admire, and we thankfully look back to the opportunities they so graciously gave us of judging of the high development they have reached in the all-important questions which the International Council of Women has so much at heart.

MARCHESA FIAMMETTA BOURBON DEL MONTE.

(*Proxy for the President of the National Council of Italy.*)

## II

*Le Congrès de Toronto. Par MADAME BERNOCCO FAVA-PARVIS, of the Turin Local Council of Women.*

LE congrès, réunissant des femmes de nation et de race anglo-saxonne, je l'envisage au point de vue de la race latine, dont les seules représentantes étaient les trois déléguées de l'Italie.

Et d'abord ce qui me frappa ce fut le calme, le parfait équilibre dans toute réunion et dans les discussions :

nous autres, plus passionnées ou plus bruyantes, nous ne saurions pas nous maîtriser autant: mais j'ai remarqué aussi le manque de conclusions ou de ce que nous appelons "ordres du jour." Le règlement du congrès le défendait du reste. La présidente devait se borner à résumer les différentes discussions, qui suivaient la lecture des rapports, en indiquant le consentement de l'opinion générale sur chaque sujet. La même chose j'ai observée à Berlin, et c'est peut-être mieux, car la mêlée de langages ne permettrait pas toujours d'expliquer d'une façon nette et précise les vœux de chaque nation, tout en étant, en règle générale, bien d'accord sur les points principaux. Les sections étaient trop nombreuses: il y en avait neuf: j'aimerais mieux dans un prochain congrès les réduire à quatre: en réunissant celles qui ont de l'affinité entre elles, on pourrait intéresser tout le monde, éviter le désagrément d'avoir des salles au complet et d'autres désertes, au grand dommage des belles relations qu'on y lisait et de l'intelligente direction de la présidente de section. Toujours de la politesse et de l'amabilité, de la part des présidentes de section, envers les congressistes: je voyais clairement que lorsque un rapport était trop long et que le temps marqué était passé, les braves dames souffraient, mais jamais je n'ai entendu de clochette qui rappelât l'indiscrète à l'ordre.

De toutes les propositions et les discussions, les plus utiles et les plus pratiques sont, à mon avis, celles qui ont rapport à la santé publique, à l'éducation et à l'instruction de l'enfant. Voilà où l'instinct de la femme éclata passionnément! Et bien des congressistes étaient docteurs en médecine! Et nullement grottesques, sans

allures masculines ! Tout ce qu'il y a de plus féminin, de plus maternel !

Je me souviens de ce que un des Conférenciers a dit à propos du mariage : "Est-il préférable se marier seulement par amour, ou aussi par raison ? Au Canada nous nous marions par amour : dans le vieux monde ordinairement ce sont les pères et les mères qui combinent le mariage. Les deux cas ont leurs avantages et leurs désagréments : il est sûr que lorsque les parents s'en mêlent, c'est pour que la santé des mariés assure une génération forte et saine."

Je ne crains pas d'affirmer que dans la dernière période quinquennale l'activité féminine, soit dit à sa louange, s'exerça surtout dans ce champ-là. Et c'est juste et généreux : le peuple et les enfants sont les ignorants et les faibles ; la femme se doit à eux en maîtresse et en mère.

Notre présidente, Lady Aberdeen, nous en donne l'exemple. C'est à elle, à sa renommée de grande dame bienfaisante et simple, qui la faisait aimer jadis comme vice-reine du Canada qu'on doit principalement la réussite des séances du conseil d'abord et du congrès ensuite. Son esprit éminent, organisateur et souple, sa bonté qui ne connaît pas de faiblesse, lui servaient à merveille ; les déléguées de tous les pays le sentaient du fond de l'âme et lui en savaient gré, d'autant plus qu'elle savait à tout propos s'oublier personnellement pour s'identifier uniquement dans son rôle. Le Conseil national du Canada n'a rien épargné pour que ce rendez-vous de femmes spirituelles, bienfaisantes et intellectuelles fût digne de la noble et libre terre de conquérants et de héros. Ces réunions de représentantes du monde civilisé, la vie commune pendant

une quinzaine de jours, soit dans les travaux de l'intelligence, de la pensée et de la parole, soit dans les réceptions et dans les excursions, qui, toutes, furent cordiales et splendides, soit dans la visite aux écoles, aux institutions charitables, qui abondent dans cette contrée pleine de jeunesse et de verve, sont remarquables pour la fusion des intérêts et des goûts, plasmée sur un accord d'honnêteté et de beauté, qui est l'idéal de toutes les aspirations humaines.

Et la pensée religieuse n'était jamais disjointe de l'idée philanthropique ou purement humaine ! Tous les matins, pendant les journées du congrès, avant les séances, il y avait un *devotional meeting* conduit par des dames ! Et la plus ardente pour le droit de vote à la femme c'était une théologienne ! C'est au Conseil National des femmes, affilié au Conseil International, d'indiquer et de suivre le juste milieu : voilà son but. Notre constitution nous défend de nous mêler de questions controversiales en affaires de politique ou de religion.

Je me souviens comme d'une note charmante des jeunes étudiantes de l'Université qui faisaient le service de *messagères* pendant les séances du conseil et du congrès. Aux premières, celles du conseil, elles étaient graves dans leurs sévères habillements noirs de petits magistrats, mais aux secondes elles étaient tout en blanc et comme de vrais papillons voltigeaient de l'une à l'autre, des congressistes aux présidentes, avec grâce et élégance. En voici une instantanée prise au hasard à la sortie d'une section à séance finie.

En italienne, reconnaissante de l'aide si prompte, si

spontanée, si généreuse que ma patrie a reçu des femmes de toutes les nations lors du désastre de la Sicile et de la Calabre par le tremblement de terre, je répète ici ce que j'ai eu l'honneur de dire publiquement : "Si cette preuve d'amour universel était le seul résultat du Conseil International des femmes, il serait, par cela même, digne de la conquête du monde ! Et je suis très flattée que le prochain Congrès international ait lieu à Rome !"

JULIE BERNOCCO FAVA-PARVIS.

*Turin, Italie.*

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[TRANSLATION.]

*The Congress of the International Council of Women at Toronto. By MADAME BERNOCCO FAVA-PARVIS, of the Turin Council of Women.*

I REGARD this Congress, which united women of Anglo-Saxon race and nationality, from the point of view of the Latin nations, of whom the only representatives present were the three Italian delegates.

At the outset, the thing which most impressed me was the calm and the perfect equilibrium of the whole reunion, and of the discussions which took place. We, who are more emotional, or more demonstrative, could not have exercised so great a command over ourselves. I was struck also by the absence of "resolutions" at the Congress. It is true that the programme of the Congress forbade them. The Chairman was to limit herself to summing up the

various discussions (which followed the reading of the reports), and to pointing out the general agreement of opinion on the several topics. I observed the same thing at Berlin; and, after all, this plan is perhaps the best, for the medley of languages did not always allow of a clear and precise statement of the views of each nation; whilst there was, as a general rule, a practical agreement regarding the principal points. The sections were too numerous; there were nine. I should prefer at a future Congress to see them reduced to four. By uniting together those sections which are akin to one another, it would be possible to command general interest, and to avoid the unpleasantness of having some halls crowded and others empty. The emptiness of some of the halls was much to be regretted, both on account of the admirable nature of the reports which were read, and on account of the intelligent direction of the presidents of the sections. The courtesy and amiability shown to the members of the Congress by the presidents of the sections was always unfailing. I noticed particularly that when a report was too long, and time to conclude it was lacking, the brave ladies were pained. But I never heard the bell rung to call anyone to order.

The most useful and the most practical of all the discussions are, in my opinion, those which deal with public health and the education and instruction of children. Here the feminine instincts displayed themselves warmly. Many of the members of the Congress were Doctors of Medicine. Their vocation did not render them masculine, but left them perfectly feminine and perfectly maternal.

I remember a thing that one of the speakers said respecting marriage : " Is it better to marry only for love, or also for reason ? In Canada we marry for love. In the Old World, marriages are usually arranged by fathers and mothers. Both plans present advantages and disadvantages. It is certain that when the parents intervene they do so in order that the health of the young couple may ensure strong and healthy offspring."

I have no hesitation in asserting that during the last quinquennial period the activity of women (be it recorded to their praise) has been particularly exercised in this direction. This is both just and generous. Children, like the multitude, are ignorant and feeble. It is the duty of the woman to be to them both mistress and mother.

Our President, Lady Aberdeen, set us a noble example. The success of the meetings of the Council and the Congress was due principally to her, to her reputation of a " grande dame," at the same time beneficent and simple, which in the past made her loved as the Vicereine of Canada. Her eminent ability, her versatility, her powers of organisation, and her goodness of heart, which knows no bounds, served her marvellously. The delegates from all the countries were deeply sensible of this, and intensely grateful to her for her readiness on every occasion to be unmindful of herself, and to identify herself completely with her official position.

The National Council of Canada spared no pains to make the reunion of witty, beneficent, and intellectual women worthy of a free land of heroes and conquerors. These meetings of representatives of the civilised

world, the life which they shared in common during a fortnight—whether in intellectual labours of thought and speech, or in the receptions and excursions, which were all of them both cordial and brilliant, or in the visits to schools and charitable institutions, which abound in this country full of youth and spirits—were all alike remarkable for the fusion of interests and tastes, founded on a sense of the union of honour and beauty which is the ideal of human aspirations.

Religion was not disunited from purely humane and philanthropic ideas. Every morning, during the days of the Congress, a “devotional meeting” was conducted by ladies for those who wished to attend; and the most ardent advocate of the rights of women to vote was the ordained pastor of a congregation in the United States. The National Councils of Women affiliated to the International Council are recommended to observe a just mean, to take that for its right aim and to avoid all questions of party politics and religion.

One of my most charming recollections of our reunion is that of the girl students of the University who acted as messengers during the sittings of the Council and Congress. The former, the messengers of the Council, seemed grave in their severe black costumes of little magistrates. The latter, the messengers of the Congress, were completely attired in white, and presented the appearance of butterflies fluttering about with grace and elegance from one member of the Congress to another, and from the members to the President.

As an Italian woman, grateful for the ready and spontaneous assistance so generously afforded my

country on the occasion of the disasters resulting from earthquake in Sicily and Calabria, I repeat here what I had the honour of saying publicly: "If this evidence of universal love had been the only result of the International Council of Women, the International Council would, on the strength of that alone, deserve to conquer the world." And I am much delighted to think that the next International Congress is to take place at Rome.

JULIE BERNOCCO FAVA-PARVIS.

*Turin, Italy.*



FROM THE C.P.R. HOTEL, BANFF



## AUSTRIA

*Erinnerungen an die Generalversammlung des I.C.W.  
in Toronto. Von FRAU MARIANNE HAINISCH,  
Vorsitzende des Bundes österr. Frauenvereine.*

Als man im Jahre 1904 in Berlin beschlossen hatte, das nächste Quinquennial in Toronto abzuhalten, da bangte mancher Europäerin, es würde dort an Teilnehmerinnen fehlen. Man hatte in Gerechtigkeit die liebenswürdige Einladung, die Mrs. Cummings überbrachte, angenommen, zweifelte, aber an der Unternehmungslust der Frauen der alten Welt. Da irrte man sich aber, denn es fehlten von allen verbündeten Councils nur vier. Zahlreich kamen die Delegierten über den Ocean herangeschifft, manches Land entsandte eine vollzählige Delegation. Und wie fanden alle sich belohnt, die die lange Trennung von ihren Familien, Zeit und Geld dafür eingesetzt hatten um beim Stellbichein jenseits des Oceans nicht zu fehlen.

Schon der erste Empfang in Quebec überraschte. Wahrlich herzlich war die Begrüßung die alle Bewohner der schönen, historischen Stadt den Gästen zuteil werden ließen. Den Gästen! als solche, und als gerngesehene fühlten sich von da ab alle Delegierten. Wer erinnert sich nicht tief befriedigt des Lunch und des Abendempfanges in Montreal und der lieben Familien, die es den Fremden heimisch machten? Es geht nicht an alle

Überraschungen die uns wurden, aufzuzählen. Der Besuch der landwirtschaftlichen Schule in St. Ann muß jedoch erwähnt werden, denn deren Einrichtungen, Lehrkörper Schüler und Schülerinnen haben einen tiefen Eindruck auf alle Besucher gemacht. In anderen Art, aber nicht minder erfreuend war die Fahrt auf den Berg Mont Real, die lange Wagenreihe, die da der Höhe zufuhr, war das hübsche Vorspiel für das Schauspiel das sich uns darbot, als wir von dem Aussichtspunkte aus die Stadt, den Lorenzostrom und den Hafen überblickten. Ein sehr gemütlicher Abend soll nicht vergessen sein, den die deutschen Delegierten über Einladung der Montrealer Deutschen in deren Club zubrachten.

Auch der kurze Aufenthalt in Ottawa gab uns Gelegenheit das schöne Parlamentsgebäude, die Anlagen der Stadt sowie seine landwirtschaftliche Versuchsanstalt zu sehen, von der schönen Lady Gray in ihrem herrlichen Park und abends von den Frauen Ottawa's empfangen zu werden. Da ich all das am 15. Juni Gebotene herzhäle, scheint es mir ganz unglaublich, daß wir es wirklich an einem Tage genossen haben; und doch ist es so, die Darbietungen übertrafen häufig fast die Aufnahmsfähigkeit der Councilmitglieder.

Das erfuhren wir auch in Toronto, wo wir nebst redlich viel Arbeit eine lange Reihe von Belustigungen fanden. Allein der Aufenthalt dort war Genuß. Ich kam von der Besichtigung einer ganzen Reihe von Städte der Vereinigten Staaten. Es wäre undankbar und töricht wollte ich mich nicht all der Anregungen dankbar erinnern, die ich dort empfangen habe, aber an dem Morgen, da ich durch die Allee der Georgestreet in den Park der Universität schritt, die uns so gastlich aufnahm, da

begrüßte ich die riesigen Maplebäume, die mir im kühlen Morgenwinde zuzunicken schienen freudig aufatmend. Die Umgebungen der Stadt habe ich am Lake Simcoe, in einem wundervollen Golfhause, später würdigen gelernt. Daß Die Niagarafälle von Toronto aus in weniger als drei stunden zu erreichen sind, macht sie zu einem Ausflugsarte dieser Stadt. Auch dahin führten aus die fürsorgenden Gastgeber wodurch uns überdies Gelegenheit geboten wurde, mit vielen Canadiern in Berührung zu kommen.

Die Bekanntschaft mit der liebenswürdigen Bewohner-schaft des gesegneten Landes dürfte mancher Delegierten als der Hauptgewinn des diesjährigen Quinquennials erscheinen. Es unterliegt ja keinem Zweifel daß die Bedeutung aller Generalversammlungen und Kongresse in dem persönlichen Verkehre zu suchen ist. In dieser Beziehung bot Canada viel. Freilich vermissten die ständigen Besucherinnen der Council Meetings manche Zierde der Frauenbewegung, es fehlte uns bei den Diskus-sionen manche markante, zielbewußte und formgewandte Persönlichkeit, aber was wir dagegen eintauschten, war erfreulich. Mir erschien es oft, ich hätte nirgends so heitere und liebenswürdig Frauen getroffen, als in Canada; wenigstens nirgends so herzliche Wirtinnen. Von der Vorsitzenden des Nat. Council of Canada, der herzge-winnenden Lady Edgar bis zu den Studentinnen in ihrer malerischen Tracht mit Barett und Talar kamen uns alle Bewohnerinnen des schönen Landes mit größter Zu-vor-kommenheit entgegen. Die Herren hielten sich—with Aus-nahme der vielen offiziellen Persönlichkeiten—fern, wo wir aber mit solchen in Berührung kamen, blieben sie nicht hinter den Frauen zurück. Des geistreichen Senators

Dandurand wird sich jede Delegierte dankbar erinnern, die Gelegenheit hatte von ihm Auffschlüsse über Land und Leute zu erhalten. Die Professoren Key und Hume haben nicht minder dazu beigetragen die Fremden mit canadischen Einrichtungen vertraut zu machen. Die offiziellen Persönlichkeiten, die uns in den Staatsgebäuden und Rathäusern so prächtige Empfänge bereiteten verpflichteten die Delegierten und damit die gesamte Frauenwelt ganz besonders. Die Empfänge galten dem Int. Council of Women und Ihrer Excellenz Lady Aberdeen. Der letztere Umstand mag den freudigen, herzlichen Ton veranlaßt haben, der sie auszeichnete. Denn in allen Städten und an allen Orten Canada's war man über den Besuch der einstigen hochverehrten Statthalterin hochfreut.

Es dürfte bei manchem Leser dieser Zeilen Erstaunen erregen, anstatt über die Verhandlungen des I.C.W. nur von den in seiner Begleitung gebotenen Festlichkeiten zu hören. Zur Aufklärung sei daher gesagt, daß den Delegierten der Zweck ihrer Reise nach der neuen Welt nicht entfallen war und ist, und daß sie es nicht versäumt haben ernste Vorsätze zur Förderung der Kinder- und Krankenfürsorge, der Friedens- und Wohlrechtsbewegung und der Rechts- und Sittlichkeitsbestrebungen der Frauen zu fassen. Das Arbeitsprogramm und den Bericht über die Generalversammlung bringen die „Transactions,“ es mag uns daher gestattet sein, den ernsten Geschäftsbericht mit kleinen persönlichen Rückblicken zu ergänzen, zu eigener und vielleicht auch anderer Freude, die nicht dabei waren, und denen wir gerne erzählen, welche prächtige Erholung es in Canada nach getaner Arbeit gab.

So sei denn auch vom Abschiedsabend berichtet. Es drängte uns unseren lieben Gastgebern gemeinschaftlich

für all die Güte und Fürsorge zu danken; dazu wurde aus in liebenswürdigster Weise der Beratungssaal im Parlamentsgebäude zur Verfügung gestellt und damit für das Lebewohl der denkbar würdigste Ort gewährt. Lebewohl und Dank. Für wie vieles hatten wir zu danken. Als wir unter uns die einzelnen Dankesagungen verteilten, die Lady Aberdeen's großer Rede folgen sollten, da hätten wir bald nicht genug Vertreterinnen der Nat. Council's gehabt, um allen Korporationen und den Einzelnen, die besonders viel für uns getan hatten, zu danken. Unser Dank war den Governors von Montreal, Ottawa und Toronto, sowie den Bürgermeistern dieser drei Städte und Quebecs obzustatten, dem National Council from Canada, den Localcommittees, der Universität, den Colleges, den landwirtschaftlichen Gesellschaften. Wir hatten der Women's Canadian Historical Society und dem Toronto Travel Club für die schöne Fahrt zu den Niagarafällen, hatten für die Ausflüge zum Lake Simcoe, nach Hamilton und zu dem herrlichen Playground des Golfclubs, für die Bibliotheksbesuche und viele intime Thee's zu danken. Die lange Reihe der Dankenden vergegenwärtigte uns nochmals den täglichen Lunch im großen Speisesaal des Hauptgebäudes der Universität. Wir sahen in der Erinnerung Lady Edgar und unsere vielen Gastgeberinnen, den Hunderten an der Pforte die Hände schütteln, und noch ein Bild drängte sich uns auf, der Thee in der Musiksektion, die schöne, bepflanzte Halle und das liebenswürdige Damencommittee, das die Honneurs machte, wurden uns fast gegenwärtig. Kein Wunder, denn da saßen ja alle die freundlichen gütigen Menschen, die uns den Aufenthalt so angenehm gemacht hatten. Da saßen „Sie“ auf den ehrwürdigen Sitzen der Auserwählten des Volkes, ernste Männer umgeben von

festlich gekleideten Matronen und blumengeschmückten Frauen und Jungfrauen, die uns nun wohlbekannten, liebgewordenen Canadier. Nochmals lächelten sie uns zu . . . Auf Wiedersehen in Wien, mit diesem Wunsche verließ ich die Halle.

MARIANNE HAINISCH.

WIEN, 6 September, 1909.

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[TRANSLATION.]

*Reminiscences of the Quinquennial Meeting of the I.C.W., in Toronto. By FRAU MARIANNE HAINISCH, President of the Austrian National Council of Women.*

WHEN it was decided in the year 1904, at Berlin, that the next Quinquennial should take place in Toronto, many of the members of our European Councils of Women were afraid that the meeting would be but sparsely attended. To do them justice, the warm invitation extended by Mrs. Willoughby Cummings on behalf of the National Council of Women of Canada was accepted, but many doubted the spirit of enterprise in the women of the Old World. However, they were mistaken, for of all the federated Councils there were only four missing. The delegates crossed the ocean in great numbers, and several countries even sent the full number permitted to them. And they were well compensated for their sacrifice of money, time, and the separation from their families, in order to attend this meeting beyond the seas. On arriving

at Quebec, they were astonished at the hearty reception the inhabitants of this beautiful historic city had prepared for their guests. We may well say guests, for from the outset we were made to feel honoured and welcome guests. Which of us will not recall with great happiness and gratitude the lunches, the excursions, the evening receptions, the hospitality of the kind families who made everything so pleasant and homelike to the foreigners in Montreal? It is impossible to relate all the delightful surprises devised for our enjoyment, but I must not omit to mention our visit to the Macdonald College of Agriculture at St. Anne, whose organisation, teaching-staff and pupils greatly impressed the visitors.

In a different way, but not less enjoyable, was the drive up to the beautiful mountain drive. The long procession of carriages which drove up towards the peak was a pretty prelude to the spectacle which presented itself to us at the top, when we looked down on the town, the great St. Lawrence and the other great rivers flowing at our feet. I must not forget to add that the German delegates spent a very pleasant evening at the German Club in Montreal.

Our short stay in Ottawa gave us an opportunity of inspecting the Houses of Parliament, the beautiful pleasure parks of the city, and the Government Experimental Farm. We also had the privilege of being received by the handsome Countess Grey in her charming gardens, and in the evening the women of the Local Council of Ottawa gave us a reception. In narrating all that we did on one day at Ottawa, the 15th of June, I can hardly believe that we were able

to enjoy so much amusement in one day, and yet it remains a fact ! The entertainments which were offered were so numerous that very frequently the members of the Council were unable to profit by them all. This we also remarked in Toronto, where, besides getting through a lot of real honest work, we had many opportunities for any amount of diversion. I must say that our sojourn there was indeed a treat. I had come from the United States, where I had visited a great many towns, and it would be wrong and foolish to say that I do not think with a grateful heart of all the stimulating effects I have received from them. But one of the most vivid remembrances of my Canadian visit is that of the morning when I walked down the Avenue of Bloor Street and went into the grounds of the beautiful University, whose Buildings were so very hospitably put at the disposal of the Council. I greeted the gigantic maples, which seemed to nod at me in the fresh morning breeze and caused me to draw a deep, joyful breath. The environs of the town I learned to appreciate later on when we visited the fine Golf House grounds, the Lake of Simcoe, and other places of interest.

As the Niagara Falls are in easy reach, the people of Toronto often make it their goal for excursions, and thither we also were taken by our thoughtful hosts. On this occasion we came in touch with a good many Canadians. Many a delegate will consider her acquaintance with the kind inhabitants of this much blessed country as the chief benefit of this year's Quinquennial.

There is no doubt that the importance of all General Meetings and Congresses is to be found in the personal

intercourse of those concerned. From this point of view the Canadian Council meeting missed some of our most faithful attendants at former Councils who were not able to travel so far, and we were much the poorer by the absence of these experienced and wise leaders in the women's movement. In the discussions, too, we felt the lack of their individuality and their knowledge.

Nevertheless, there were other newer elements of interest as a compensation. It often appeared to me that I had nowhere met with more cheerful and more amiable women than in Canada, and in no part of the world have I encountered more kind-hearted hostesses.

From the President of the National Council of Canada, the fascinating Lady Edgar, down to the girl students in their picturesque caps, gowns, and hoods, as well as the other inhabitants, they all showed us the greatest civility. We did not see much of the gentlemen, with the exception of the numerous officials; but wherever we happened to come in contact with them, they did not fall short in the way of attentions towards us. Every delegate who had occasion to receive information from the distinguished Senator Dandurand about the country and people will always remember his kindness. Professor Key and Professor Hume no less contributed to help the foreigners in making them acquainted with Canadian life.

All the visitors were greatly indebted to the Mayors and Municipalities for the splendid receptions given in the Town Halls and other Government buildings. These receptions took place in honour of the International Council of Women, and of her Excellency Lady Aberdeen.

This last circumstance may have accounted for the prevailing cheerful and easy tone which is characteristic of her.

In all towns and places in Canada the people were extremely delighted with the visit of the honoured and beloved Lady Aberdeen, who formerly lived there as their Vicereine.

Many readers of this will be surprised to hear only of the festivities connected with the I.C.W. instead of the transactions which were carried on at the meetings. In explanation I must state that in no way did the object of this visit to the New World escape the minds of the delegates, and that they did not fail to give serious consideration to subjects brought before them, such as the care of the children and the sick, the Peace and Women's Suffrage Movements, the endeavour to obtain an equal moral standard for men and women. The "Transactions" will publish a full account of the work which has been done, and the report of the meetings; therefore I suppose I may supplement the business report by a few of my own personal reminiscences, to please myself and perhaps others who were not present, and whom we should like to tell what delightful recreation Canada had in store for us after work was finished.

In describing our last evening before our departure from Toronto, I must mention that the Legislative Chamber in the Parliament Buildings was kindly placed at our disposal, thus providing us with the most beautiful surroundings for our farewells, and at this gathering it was decided to collectively thank our kind hosts for all the consideration they had bestowed on us.

Indeed, we had to be grateful for many things. It was arranged that after Lady Aberdeen's closing speech the many votes of thanks which we wished to pass should be proposed by representatives of different countries, and as it was we hardly had sufficient delegates of the International Council to be able to thank all the corporations and the individual members who had been especially attentive to us. We gave thanks to the Governor General and Countess Grey, to the Governor of Quebec and Ontario, as well as to the Mayors of Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto, to the National Council of Canada, to the Local Committees, to the Universities, the Colleges, and to the agricultural institutes. We also had to thank the Canadian Women's Historical Society and the Toronto Travelling Club for the lovely excursion to the Niagara Falls, for the visits to Lady Edgar at Lake Simcoe, to Mrs. Sanford at Hamilton, and to the beautiful pleasure grounds of the Golf Club, not to forget the visits to the Library, and numerous private tea-parties. The long list of votes of thanks reminded me once more of the daily lunch in the big dining-hall in the central building of the University. We saw again in our mind Lady Edgar and our many other hostesses shaking hands with hundreds of us at the gate; and another picture impressed itself on us, that was the daily tea and the music provided by the Art Section; the stately Convocation Hall, and in it the kind committee of ladies who did the honours, all this was prominent in our minds. No wonder that such thoughts crowded on us, seeing that these delightful Canadian friends, who had shown us boundless kindness, and whom we had learnt

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to know so well and to love so dearly, were there amongst us, and we were sitting side by side in this Chamber, reserved for the elected of the people, smiling one to another, and exchanging farewell greetings. "Auf wiedersehen in Wien!" With this wish sounding in my ears, I left the Hall.

MARIANNE HAINISCH.

VIENNA, 6th Sept., 1909.



IN THE NATIONAL PARK AT BANFF, ON THE BOW RIVER



## HUNGARY

*Impressions of my Visit to the Quinquennial Meeting of  
the International Council of Women in Toronto,  
June, 1909. By FRAULEIN MARGARET KRAJNER,  
Delegate from the National Council of Women of  
Hungary.*

To endeavour to chronicle the impressions of the past few weeks after a journey from the Eastern to the Western Hemisphere, from one of the outlying countries of the Old World to Britain's vast possession in the New, to tell of the wonderful sights, scenes and events which course through my mind in kaleidoscopic sequence, is a task as difficult as it is delightful. Coming from what seems to me now, as I write, far-away Hungary, I hastened over the ocean to the great gathering of women in Toronto, to meet intelligent and educated women from every quarter of the civilised globe.

This beautiful Dominion of Canada has much in common with my own dear land—the mighty rivers, the blue Alpine lakes reflecting snow-capped mountains, the sombre pine forests, the vast yellow wheat fields, the immense stretches of grazing land with the same lazy, browsing cattle, the well-equipped Agricultural Colleges training the people for the same avocations

of life. All these outward surroundings, combined with the close sympathy which has existed for centuries between my country and Canada's mother-land, in their very similar constitution, administration of laws and forms of local government by counties, in many of their feelings, tastes, and habits, were a great help to me, and would have prevented my feeling a stranger in a strange land, had that feeling been possible for a moment, where I found such a warmth of welcome, such unbounded hospitality, such kindness, cordiality and sympathy on all sides. I found true, warm-hearted women with the sweetest of smiles, possessing rare intellectual gifts, powers of eloquence and concentration, combined with an earnest steadfastness of purpose. The ability, tact, perseverance and accuracy which the officers conducting the meeting showed in the treatment of the enormous mass of material on their comprehensive programme, magnificent in detail and wonderful universality, won the admiration of all. It was, in fact, almost too extensive for the comparatively short time allotted us, and we were compelled to prolong our sessions into the night hours, although, owing to the courtesy of the sun in appearing to bestow upon us daily, as we proceeded westward, a greater measure of his presence, we felt upon reaching Canada as if we had been presented with several additional hours, and so had a longer day to work in than at home.

Any practical scheme which would simplify methods of business, and would considerably lighten the task of those who have the double burden of wrestling with the many unfamiliar accents of the speakers as well as

concentrating their attention upon the subject-matter, would, I think, be received with general satisfaction.

The mission and object of my journey being to keep my mind open to receive whatever influences and impressions might be made upon it, I constantly wished I could have had it treated beforehand in the same manner as a blank sensitised gramophone disc, that it might be receptive enough and responsive enough to register as accurately for the benefit of others the many and varied ideas to which I listened day by day. One incalculable advantage of such an institution as the International Council of Women is the possibility it affords women of different nations, interested in widely different objects, of meeting together and helping one another, each learning something from the other in the discussion of questions touching the best interests of humanity, thus giving all a rare opportunity of learning the best and of applying it afterwards, modified to meet its own special needs at home.

I, personally, reaped a great benefit from attending the Council Meetings in this way: that having come with doubts in my mind on certain subjects set for discussion, I had my doubts removed, and the clouds which obscured my mental horizon dispelled after hearing the able addresses given by those who had made careful, and in many cases a life-long, study of the subjects under consideration.

The same generosity which characterised the whole of our stay in Canada was to be found in the lavish arrangements for the numerous garden parties, re-

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ceptions and other social functions, which in their elegance, dignity and harmonious settings were on a level with any similar gatherings in the older and larger capitals of Europe. Canada has no need to look to the future for the flower of her glory—she has attained an eminence so noble that it is no longer enough to say of her, *she will be*, but rather, *she is*.

MARGARET KRAJNER.

SAN FRANCISCO, *July*, 1909.



THE LAST OF THE BUFFALO IN THE NATIONAL PARK  
AT BANFF



## NORWAY

*Impressions of Canada.* By FRÖKEN GINA KRÖG,  
President of the National Council of Women of  
Norway.

TORONTO is said to be an Indian name and its significance a *meeting-place*. If so, I think the delegates, speakers, and visitors who met there at the International Council meeting, in the never-to-be-forgotten days of June, 1909, will agree that it deserves its name.<sup>1</sup>

There they came from various continents, from the most remote countries, from the North and the South—workers on different lines, of different political views and of different creeds—there they met not to dispute and quarrel, but to be mutually each other's pupils and teachers. And—there could be no doubt of it—the more they were together the more they learned to understand and to sympathise.

When this feeling of unity amidst all the diversities—amidst the almost bewildering multitude of topics and questions—was so strong; when we could see our

After the above article was written I read "A Trip to Niagara," by M. Agnes FitzGibbon, and noticed the following passage: "We leave Toronto—this name being the Wyandot word for *there is plenty*."

My sketch will illustrate that in this case Toronto also deserves its name.

"Council idea" so beautifully illustrated, it was largely due to the country and the city where the Congress was held. Toronto was indeed *the* meeting-place.

On account of the over-abundance of subjects and papers, which appears at most international meetings nowadays, there is often heard serious criticism, and the Canada meeting was no exception to the rule; but when the criticism began, it was drowned in the admiration of how splendidly everything was arranged. It could not possibly have been better. Everything was thought of, nothing was forgotten or neglected.

In the University buildings the many and spacious halls made it possible for several meetings to go on at the same time, morning, noon, and evening, and gave comfort and rest in the intervals. I have no doubt that the surroundings, with their atmosphere of learning and scientific, that is to say, international, spirit, contributed very greatly to the harmony which we felt. The beautiful University buildings in Toronto will for ever be to all of us a place of delightful memories.

Even the most superficial spectator will understand that in Canada learning is held in the highest esteem. The citizens make great sacrifices to keep it on a high level, and the interest for education, both on theoretical and practical lines, is there rapidly growing universal.

We also saw that at the Congress the educational session was the one in which the Toronto people seemed to take the most interest.

The different Provinces seem to have a highly organised school system; education is compulsory

and has been so for a number of years. The buildings are very fine and large, and the hygienic improvements splendid. The classes, however, seem to be over-crowded, which makes it hard for the teacher to give each child the individual care and attention that is required for development into moral personalities. However, this is the case almost all over the world and not Canada's problem only. But the people of Canada, it appears, have already begun to apply their minds to the question of educating the children for life in the open country. The movement toward increasing the efficiency of the country population has been considerably developed. Dr. James W. Robertson is the Principal of MacDonald College at Ste. Anne de Bellevue. This is a school in the best sense of the word, where the youth of Canada may be trained in special studies and go out as teachers. Also other schools for the training of teachers have been established through the generosity of Sir William MacDonald, and the buildings and equipment of the MacDonald Institute and Hall at Guelph are among the most beautiful educational institutions in Canada. On the whole, the stranger is greatly impressed with the growing universities, which all admit women. There is a complete chain of instruction in some branches from the public school to the University in a thoroughly graded course of study.

Another trait, which even during a short visit is noticeable, is that in Canada the churches seem to undertake much of the philanthropic and social work which in most European countries is done by the municipalities and the governments.

When we came to Canada, as strangers in a strange land, and were met with words like these: "Welcome! we have been waiting for you these five years!"—we at once felt at home. And our hosts and hostesses seemed to derive as much pleasure from entertaining their guests as these did from staying in their beautiful and comfortable homes. Even the people in the streets and the sales-assistants in the shops had their kind ways of showing how welcome we were in their city.

One who has not experienced it can hardly imagine the excellent and splendid arrangements for the entertainment of the delegates and visitors. This applies to Toronto as it applies to all the other cities and places we visited.

The Local Councils and other societies, the municipalities and the Mayors, the Governors and the Governments, the citizens, men and women—all vied with each other in making our sojourn in Canada as delightful and profitable as possible. The hospitality of the Canadians proved in one word *boundless*, and the way in which it was offered words cannot describe, but it went straight to our hearts.

Most of the delegates passed through Quebec, Montreal, and Ottawa before arriving in Toronto, and when we ask them from what place they will have the most lasting impressions we get different answers.

The first impression was the strongest, says one: Quebec is so picturesque and interesting, the old part of it, with the winding, very narrow, streets and the small, quaint houses. The beautiful French language was so dominant that we heard the answers in the

streets : "Je ne comprends pas." And then the view from the Citadelle and the Hotel Frontenac!—and the two rivers, St. Lawrence and St. Charles, sparkling in the sunshine, and across the river the town of St. Lévis!

I prefer Montreal, says another; I like the rush and bustle of commercial activity. I like to feel the energy of the modern city—modern, and at the same time with historic riches. The two races are more equally represented here, and the interiors in homes and institutions we got glimpses of were most charming and interesting.

I give the prize to Ottawa, says the third. When the Mayor of Ottawa spoke to us, he said : "In looking back we hope that the memories of Ottawa will seem a little brighter than those from the other places you have visited." And looking back, it seems to me that the charm of the beautiful City of Ottawa stands out so very clearly in my memory. Who will ever forget the garden party at Rideau Hall, where we were met with such charming courtesy ? The whole scene was of such beauty and splendour that it seemed touched by a fairy's wand.

When opinions differ so much just about these three places, what, then, must be the variety of impressions of those who were so happy as to pass through the whole land of the maple and the beaver from the Atlantic to the Pacific?

What do you prefer? the voice of the largest waterfall or the glittering of the largest lake? the bustle of industrial life, the stillness of the infinite prairies, or the grandeur of the snow-crested mountains?

Or if these questions are of the type that cannot be answered, we ask: Which of the places where the C.P.R. brought you to on "the Western trip" did you like best?

We were four Norwegian travellers, three delegates and one visitor, and we finally chose *Victoria*—mainly for these reasons: it has a situation of unrivalled beauty—we came there in the midst of the rose-time—and last, not least, it was our final stopping-place in Canada. All the melodies of the different impressions were there blended in one grand strain, the sadness of the farewells giving the deep under-tones.

But when I am asked what awakened your keenest interest, I answer without hesitation, the towns which in comparatively few years have grown up out of the wilderness, and are growing almost visibly.

What astonished me more than anything else was the splendid audiences which could be brought together at our meetings in these small places.

On the American Continent we find, I think, the most charming audience in the world, so kind and sympathetic and responsive, and so wide awake that not the smallest touch of humour escapes them. But to find these qualities so beautifully represented in the interior and the far west of Canada, we were not prepared for.

It was a grateful task at these meetings to report the fact that Norwegian women had obtained full political rights. It was met with the most sincere approval—yes, with enthusiasm almost everywhere. It gave me the impression that in Canada there will be a great many good workers for the section of our inter-

national programme which has as its object political woman suffrage.

The way in which the Canadians give evidence of their patriotism I found most attractive. It is the patriotism of a young nation which has the growing consciousness of all the possibilities they may develop. They feel the pride of being a land of the future, but there is nothing overbearing and haughty in their sentiment.

I always felt glad when the Canadians expressed sympathy for my country, for I knew they were sincere, and it was very gratifying to us that the Canadian representatives so warmly supported our invitation to hold the next quinquennial of the I.C.W. in Norway in its historical year, 1914. As we know, this will not be, Italy getting some more votes.

And now, after I have left Canada with the rich impressions from the whole in my mind, I think it was best so. It may be that Rome is the only place which will give satisfaction after the Toronto meeting, as it will give beautiful sensations of so different a kind that no comparison can be made.

But whatever will be the charms of the next and the following quinquennials, we can never meet more of the spirit of youth, and hope, and love, than we did in Canada. It surrounded us, and filled the atmosphere and gave us a feeling which can neither be described nor forgotten.

GINA KRÖG.

## BELGIUM

*Impressions et Souvenirs du Canada, Juin et Juillet, 1909.* Par MADEMOISELLE MARIE POPELIN, Docteur en Droit, Présidente du Conseil National des Femmes Belges.

LORSQUE, il y a cinq ans (1904), au retour de l'Assemblée quinquennale du Conseil International tenue à Berlin, et du Congrès des femmes qui suivit, j'annonçai, en Belgique, que la réunion à venir aurait lieu à Toronto, sur les rives du lac Ontario, presque au cœur du Canada, l'impression générale fut plutôt décourageante : les sourires narquois, les réflexions marquées d'incrédulité accueillèrent ma communication.

Toronto, le lac Ontario ; le fleuve St. Laurent, les chutes du Niagara, ces noms évocateurs de paysages immenses, de grandes scènes fantastiques de la nature, ces vastes provinces canadiennes encore pleines de mystères, que tout cela était loin de l'Europe et qu'un voyage en ces régions paraissait improbable, aussi improbable qu'une excursion dans la planète Mars ou aux pays de la Lune.

Mais comme le dit le poète Théodore de Bauville, tout arrive, même les choses qu'on désire, et l'improbable est aujourd'hui une belle et inoubliable réalité. Les grandes semaines féministes quinquennales ont eu lieu,



ENGLISH BAY, VANCOUVER



nous les avons vécues à Toronto, cette jolie ville des Jardins, sur les rives du lac Ontario non loin des chutes imposantes du Niagara.

Cependant, ce n'est pas sans émotion, sans une sorte d'angoisse que nous avons procédé à nos préparatifs de voyage, fermé nos malles et bouclé nos valises. Mais quoi ? Fallait-il laisser croire là bas, en Amérique, que les femmes belges ne se préoccupent point des questions féministes, qu'elles se désintéressent des questions sociales et humanitaires ? Je n'en pouvais supporter la pensée. Il faut donc se dévouer une fois de plus, quitter les siens, quitter son home, réaliser ses économies et traverser l'Atlantique en dépit des maux si désagréables, si peu esthétiques que nous y attendent.

Combien nos inquiétudes et nos émotions étaient vaines ! Dès que nous eûmes mis le pied sur le superbe steamer du Canadien Pacifique, "Empress of Britain," *so steady, so comfortable*, nous connûmes une vie nouvelle, intéressante, variée, pleine d'imprévus et dont le souvenir perdurera dans la suite des jours qu'il nous sera donné de vivre.

Le souvenir dominant restera celui de l'hospitalité si large, si gracieuse qui nous attendait sur cette terre d'Amérique inconnue de la plupart d'entre nous et qui allait nous retenir pendant deux grands mois.

Dès notre entrée à Quebec, la Française, nous eûmes l'impression de débarquer dans un pays ami et nous comprîmes que les dames canadiennes allaient rivaliser de politesses et d'amabilités envers leurs collègues d'au-delà les mers, *the ladies from over the seas*, comme on nous appelait. Et, en effet, *the ladies from over*

*the seas* furent accueillies et fêtées partout avec un empressement, une générosité, une grâce souriante, jamais rencontrées ailleurs, qu'il est difficile sinon impossible de décrire et dont le souvenir demeurera impérissable.

Comment oublier notre première étape, Montréal, et les quatre journées passées en fêtes et réceptions, en garden-parties, en visites aux écoles et collèges, en excursions sur les lacs et les rapides ; comment oublier le Collège Victoria, notre quartier général. Nous y sommes revenues souvent, toujours heureuses de rencontrer les jeunes étudiantes qui nous servaient de guides ou d'interprètes, et d'échanger quelques mots avec la sympathique et distinguée Miss Hurlbatt, la directrice du Collège, que nous eûmes la chance de rencontrer une dernière fois à Glacier, où comme nous elle tentait, malgré la pluie persistante l'ascension de la montagne par un sentier abrupte, coupée en pleine forêt vierge jusqu'à l'entrée du glacier.

Comment oublier Ottawa et la magnifique garden-party donnée par la Comtesse Grey à Rideau House. Jamais nous ne vîmes, ni à Paris, ni à Londres, ni ailleurs, tant de luxe, tant d'élégance. Nous vécûmes une heure de rêve dans un décor de féerie. De délicieuses jeunes femmes et jeunes filles se promenaient dans les allées du parc ou s'avançaient sur les pelouses, formant dans leurs mouvements de ravissants tableaux, pleins de lumière et d'harmonie, et dignes de tenter la palette du peintre. On aurait pu croire à quelque régisseur organisant la mise en scène tant les effets étaient variés et réussis. Notre Présidente Internationale, Lady Aberdeen et Lady Grey, allaient de

groupe en groupe saluant les déléguées et ayant pour chacun un mot aimable.

Un souvenir tant différent mais qui depuis m'amuse beaucoup, c'est l'ombre que la toilette de quelques-unes des déléguées projetait sur ces tableaux lumineux. Nos malles avaient été expédiées de Montréal à Toronto, sans arrêt à Ottawa ; en outre, nous allions voyager de nuit d'Ottawa à Toronto et nos robes de voyage que nos courses en automobile à travers la ville et la campagne avaient plus ou moins couvertes de poussière détournaient misérablement au milieu de tant d'élegances. Nous en prîmes gaiement notre parti. Je sais quelques-unes d'entre nous qui s'amusèrent à dissimuler leur qualité en enlevant le *badge* I. C. W. indiquant nos noms et notre nationalité, que nous portions toutes et qui ne nous permettait pas de passer inaperçues ni inconnues.

Mais Toronto restera notre souvenir le plus vivant. Toronto où pendant quinze jours nous avons travaillé et où nous avons vécu et apprécié la vie canadienne dans les résidences particulières, dans les réunions intimes et les réceptions officielles.

Les Canadiennes m'ont laissé l'impression de femmes souriantes et heureuses vivant dans une atmosphère de joie et de sécurité. Sans doute dans leur vaste pays où les possibilités de travail et les facilités de gain sont si grandes ignorent-elles le *struggle for life* qui nous étreint, nous, dans nos pays à population dense où la course aux positions est si dure et si infructueuse. Ce qui m'a impressionnée aussi, c'est le souffle patriotique puissant qui fait vibrer à l'unisson toute la nation canadienne de l'est à l'ouest, de Quebec à Victoria, et

le drapeau Canadien—*Union Jack*—flottant partout où nous arrivions et l'hymne canadien qui clôtura souvent nos fêtes et réunions.

La réception d'adieux du 30 juin, organisée par le Conseil National du Canada, dans la grande salle des séances du Parlement, à Toronto, porta l'émotion à son comble. Nous prenions congé non pas de collègues mais d'amies devenues bien chères et en songeant à la distance qui allait bientôt nous séparer, une angoisse douloureuse étreignait nos cœurs. Où et quand nous retrouverons-nous ? Reverrons-nous la si bonne et si affable Présidente du Conseil, Lady Edgar, qui accepta notre adresse de remerciements en nous faisant une si jolie révérence ? Qui se souviendra ? Qui oubliera ?

Pour moi, je n'oublierai jamais nos visites aux grands collèges de femmes, aux écoles d'agriculture, aux fermes expérimentales. Oh ! la belle santé, la grâce et la gaieté des jeunes filles élèves du Collège d'Agriculture d'Ontario. Je vois leur longue théorie descendant vers la pelouse pour servir, aux invités du Ministre de l'Agriculture, le lunch qu'elles avaient préparé elles-mêmes, j'entends leurs fraîches voix nous saluant au départ de l'hymne national : "O Canada ! O Canada !" et leur cri *O.A.C. ! O.A.C. !* que nous percevions encore alors que la jeune bande, si enthousiaste, était depuis longtemps hors de rue.

Je voudrais parler longuement des écoles et collèges du Canada pour exalter leur quasi-perfection et regretter que nous ne possédions rien, en Belgique, qui se puisse comparer à l'*Ontario Agricultural College*, ou au Collège Victoria de Montréal.

J'ai eu cette bonne fortune rare d'être l'hôtesse—the guest—de cette incomparable maîtresse de maison

qu'est Mrs. Sanford le jour de mon arrivée au Canada et de passer dans sa délicieuse île *Sans-Souci*, au milieu des lacs Nuskoka, mes dernières journées dans la province d'Ontario. Comment décrire les charmes de la vie à *Sans-Souci*? A quiconque a besoin de calme et de repos, je conseille la retraite dans une île, à condition d'y trouver, comme à *Sans-Souci*, une délicieuse habitation, une maîtresse de maison exquise, pleine d'attentions et de prévenances, tout en vous laissant liberté d'aller et de venir; des invités intéressants et sympathiques, un yacht pour les excursions, un canoe pour les promenades, avec le soleil bienfaisant, donnant chaque jour le spectacle de levers et de couchers toujours différents, toujours admirables.

Je comprends, aujourd'hui que j'ai traversé le Canada de l'Atlantique au Pacifique, toute l'attraction qu'exerce, ce pays jeune et plein de promesses d'avenir sur les coloris heureux ou malheureux qui y ont vécu. Ils ne peuvent l'oublier et rêvent d'y retourner. Moi aussi j'éprouve quelquefois, comme tant d'autres, la nostalgie de la prairie canadienne si nue, si désolée, mais avec sa beauté prenante ; j'ai la nostalgie des grands lacs et des fleuves immenses, des hautes montagnes avec leurs sapins s'élevant droit jusqu'aux nues, des sommets neigeux, des cascades bruyantes et des superbes couchers de soleil. Ah! les couchers de soleil sur le lac Nuskoka, à Vancouver, à Victoria. Les mots sont impuissants pour en décrire la splendeur! J'ai la nostalgie des nuits si magnifiquement étoilées du Pacifique et je rêve de les contempler une fois encore.

MARIE POPELIN,

*Docteur en droit, Présidente du Conseil national des femmes belges.*

## [TRANSLATION.]

*Impressions and Recollections of Canada (June and July, 1909), by MADEMOISELLE MARIE POPELIN, Docteur en Droit, President of the National Council of Belgian Women.*

WHEN, five years ago, in 1904, on my return from the Quinquennial Assembly of the International Council of Women held in that year in Berlin, and the Congress of Women that followed it, I announced in Belgium that the next assembly would take place at Toronto, on the banks of Lake Ontario, almost in the heart of Canada, the general impression that was made was discouraging. My news was received with bantering smiles, and with remarks that gave evidence of incredulity.

Toronto, Lake Ontario, the Saint Lawrence River, and the Falls of Niagara—these names, suggestive of immense landscapes, of grand fantastic scenes of nature, and the vast Canadian provinces, still full of mysteries—all these were very far indeed from Europe, and a journey to such regions seemed improbable; as improbable as an excursion to the planet Mars, or to the regions of the Moon.

But, as the poet Théodore de Banville says, everything happens, and even the things that we wish; and the improbable has become to-day a beautiful and never to be forgotten reality. The grand weeks of the Quinquennial Council of Women have taken place, and we have lived at Toronto, the beautiful city of

gardens on the banks of Lake Ontario, not far from the imposing Falls of Niagara.

It was not, however, without emotion, nor without a species of anguish, that we made our preparations for the expedition, locked up our trunks, and buckled our valises. Only, what was to be done? Were we to allow them to believe, far away in America, that Belgian women did not concern themselves about feminine questions, or that they took no interest in social and humanitarian problems? I could not endure the thought of that. So it became once more necessary to make a sacrifice, to part from one's family, to quit home, and to draw upon one's economies, and then to cross the Atlantic, in spite of the disagreeable and entirely unæsthetic ills which awaited us upon its waves.

How groundless were our disquietudes and forebodings! From the moment when we set foot upon the magnificent Canadian Pacific steamer the *Empress of Britain*, so steady and so comfortable, we began a new life—one interesting, varied, and full of unanticipated impressions—whose memory will last through all the days that we are permitted to live.

Of many recollections the foremost will ever remain that of the bounteous and gracious hospitality which awaited us upon the American continent (unknown to most of us), where we were to spend two whole months.

On our disembarkation at Quebec, a French city, we felt at once that we had arrived in a friendly country, and discovered that the Canadian ladies intended to vie with one another in their courtesies

and kindnesses to their colleagues, "the ladies from over the seas," as they named us. In fact, "the ladies from over the seas" were everywhere welcomed with fêtes, with cordiality, with generosity, and with such gracious smiles as had never been seen elsewhere, and were equally difficult to describe and impossible to forget.

How would it be possible to forget the first stage of our journey, Montreal, and the four days spent in fêtes and receptions, in garden parties, in visits to the schools and colleges, and in excursions to the lakes and rapids? How would it be possible to forget the Victoria College, which was our headquarters? We returned to it frequently, always delighted to meet the girl students who served us as guides or interpreters, or to exchange a few words with the sympathetic and distinguished Miss Hurlbatt, directress of the College, whom we had the good fortune to meet also subsequently at Glacier, where with ourselves she attempted, in spite of the persistent rain, the ascent of the mountain by an abrupt path that pierced through the virgin forest to the foot of the glacier.

How could we forget Ottawa, and the magnificent garden-party given by Countess Grey at Rideau House? We had never anywhere seen, neither in Paris, nor in London, nor elsewhere, such luxury and elegance, and passed an hour of enchantment in a fairyland. Charming young women and young girls walked in the alleys of the park, or strolled on the lawns, making in their movements delightful pictures full of light and harmony, and worthy of the palette of an artist. One might have believed that some manager

had organised the tableaux, so varied and so successful were their effects. Our International President, Lady Aberdeen, and Lady Grey passed from group to group welcoming the Delegates and having some kind word for everyone.

An entirely different recollection, but one which afterwards much amused me, was the shadow which the toilettes of some of the Delegates threw upon the luminous picture. Our trunks had been forwarded directly from Montreal to Toronto without stopping at Ottawa; in addition to which we were to travel from Ottawa to Toronto at night, and our travelling costumes, more or less covered with dust, in consequence of our transit in motor-cars across town and country, presented a wretched appearance amongst so much elegance. We had to make up our minds to endure that gaily. There were some who amused themselves with disguising their condition by taking off the badges "I.C.W." indicating also name and nationality, worn by all of us, which did not allow us to pass unperceived or unrecognised.

But Toronto will ever be our most vivid recollection. There we laboured for a fortnight, and lived and appreciated Canadian life in private houses, amidst friendly gatherings as well as official receptions.

The Canadian ladies made on us an impression of happy smiling women, living in an atmosphere of joy and security. Without doubt, in their vast country, where the possibilities of work and opportunities of gain are so great, they are ignorant of the struggle for life that hampers us in our densely populated countries, where the contest for positions is so hard and so

fruitless. I was also much impressed by the powerful patriotic spirit which makes the whole Canadian nation vibrate in unison from East to West, from Quebec to Victoria; by the Canadian Union Jack floating wherever we arrived; and by the Canadian hymn which frequently concluded our fêtes and reunions.

The closing reception of the thirtieth of June, organised by the National Council of Canada in the great hall of the Parliament at Toronto, raised our emotion to the culminating point. We bade farewell not only to colleagues, but to women who had become very dear to us, and thought of the distance that was soon to separate us with anguish in our hearts. Where and when should we meet again? Should we ever meet again the President of the Canadian Council, Lady Edgar, so kind and agreeable! who received our address with thanks, and made us such a pretty bow? Who of us would remember? and who would forget?

For my part I shall never forget my visit to the great College for Women, to the Schools of Agriculture, and to the experimental farms. And oh! the health and grace and gaiety of the girl students of the College of Agriculture in Ontario! I can still see their long procession descending towards the lawn to wait upon the guests of the Minister of Agriculture with the luncheon which they had themselves prepared. I can still hear their clear voices saluting us on our departure with the national hymn, "O Canada! O Canada!" and their cry, "O. A. C.! " "O. A. C.!" which we could still distinguish after the young band, so full of enthusiasm, was far out of sight.

I should like to speak at length on the schools and

colleges of Canada, in order to praise their approach to absolute perfection ; and to regret that we in Belgium possess nothing that can be compared with the Ontario Agricultural College, or the Victoria College of Montreal.

I had the exceptional good fortune to be the guest of that incomparable hostess, Mrs. Sanford, on the day after my arrival in Canada, and also to pass in her delicious island of Sans Souci, amidst the Lakes of Muskoka, my last days in the province of Ontario. How would it be possible to describe the charms of life at Sans Souci ? To any one who has need of calm and repose I would recommend retreat to some such island as Sans Souci (if it were possible to find one), a delicious home, an exquisite hostess, all amiability and kindly attentions, who nevertheless left her guests an absolute freedom of movement, an interesting and sympathetic house-party, a yacht for excursions, and a canoe for boating, and a beneficent sun, presenting every day the spectacle of sunrises and sunsets, always different, and always wonderful.

After having traversed Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific, I can now understand the attraction which this young country, full of promises for the future, exercises over the colonists, happy or unhappy, who have lived in it. They are unable to forget it, and are always dreaming of returning to it. I, too, myself sometimes feel, as do so many others, the nostalgia of the Canadian prairie, so bare and desolate, but of an insistent beauty ; the nostalgia of the great lakes and the immense rivers, and the high fir-clad mountains, whose snowy peaks rise straight up to the clouds ; and

the nostalgia of the thundering cascades and superb sunsets. Ah ! the sunsets on Lake Muskoka, at Vancouver, at Victoria—words are powerless to describe their magnificence. I feel, too, the nostalgia of the splendidly starred nights of the Pacific, and dream of some day seeing them again.

MARIE POPELIN

(*Docteur en Droit, President of the National Council of Belgian Women*).

VANCOUVER HARBOUR





## EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS

*on the Western Trip by Two Members of the National Council of Women of Canada, who accompanied the International Expedition to the Coast and back.*

### I.

"THE trip, to my mind, and, I think, to all of the party, was ideal, and must surely be accompanied with results far beyond our realizing. It was a bold conception to send some hundred women representing eleven nationalities off on a twenty-two days' tour, within the narrow confines of a Pullman train, with three days of the intense heat and dust of the American desert thrown in. The dust and the heat and the inconveniences of Pullman dressing-rooms will soon be forgotten, while the friendships made, the lessons learned, and the delights of those days of travel will live in our memories for ever. Nationalities that were but a name to many of us will take on a new interest, because we know the Marquesa Bourbon del Monte, Frau Marie Stritt, Fröken Krög, Doctor Alice Salomon, the Baroness von Platen and many others, and Canada has secured a firm hold in many hearts just through this International gathering.

"The C.P.R. treated us splendidly, giving us the best of service from dining-car to conductor; and our receptions *en route* were most cordial and delightful. The Premier of British Columbia presided at the lunch given us in Victoria, supported on either side by the Bishops of the Episcopal and Catholic Churches; sixteen Mayors of cities along our route bade us welcome. The Lieutenant-Governors of all the provinces and their wives gave parties in our honour.

"Detroit, our last stopping-place, a grand climax, with breakfast, lunch, and dinner royally provided for us, and a cordial welcome, and there was real pathos in our farewells to each other as we lunched together for the last time. It certainly was a wonderful tour, and it was an immense undertaking for Mrs. Willoughby Cummings to pioneer such a mixed company, but she came through it all with great *éclat*, and the presentation to her at the end and the expressions of appreciation must have been very gratifying. The spirit of the Council was with us. It was a matter of great moment that dear Miss Janes changed her mind and came with us. Our one International officer won all hearts. Doctor Alice Salomon is an inspiration, and she filled her post well. Sometimes, I feel sure, the ordeal of speaking on public platforms, and replying for the Council at a moment's notice in a foreign tongue, was no ordinary one.

"In short, our tour was a grand finale to a delightful Quinquennial Gathering."

## II.

"The western trip was surely a great success. Our first stop was at Sudbury, where the Mayor breakfasted us. Then we were taken the five miles to Copper Cliff in a train, Sudbury ladies and gentlemen going with us. I slipped up to the hospital to visit the nurses. The three Victorian Order nurses seem so happy together; they have been there for years. Though the place is so remote, the hospital is very nice, and Mr. Turner, head of the company, is so generous to them that they are quite contented and do not want to change.

"Saturday morning early, we reached Port Arthur, and after a nice drive we lunched at the hotel. They gave us a delightful trip round the bay. This was greatly enjoyed and the scenery much admired. The afternoon was spent in Fort William. Then a meeting at which all the ministers spoke and the foreign delegates. Then high tea, and in the evening a concert on a new chime of bells lately given to the English church. They were rung first in our honour.

"We made Winnipeg early Sunday morning, and that day we spent quietly.

"Monday, the Council and the N.C.C. gave us a splendid motor ride and a lunch at the C.P.R. Hotel, and Lady McMillan had a garden party at Government House. We also attended the wedding of the niece of one of the delegates, who had travelled with the party from England.

"At Regina they took us from one thing to another all day long. A reception and lunch at such a nice

hotel ; none of our small cities could boast of the like ; baths and 'phones for all the bedrooms, and the public rooms beautifully decorated. In the afternoon we had a meeting at the Ladies' Historical Club. They gave us a history of the province and we sang patriotic songs. When it came to the 'Maple Leaf,' some sort of an electric machine scattered maple leaves (artificial), and these the overseas people gathered eagerly. They pinned bunches of wheat (Red Fife) on us. This wheat was introduced by a Scotchman. We were getting to understand that wheat is everything.

"The manœuvres of the North-west Mounted Police interested and delighted everyone. The tea at Government House was very nice. Madame Forget and all her assistants were particularly cordial. Everybody was so kind. There were some races and a ball game in the evening, and we left at 10 p.m. feeling that we had had a tremendous day.

"The next stop was Calgary, where we only had three hours, but the very most was made of them. The Mayor and some gentlemen met us at the train and took us in their fine new street cars out to the fair then in progress. There were a great number of Indians, men, women, and children. And these were intensely interesting to all the overseas people, and, indeed, to everybody. We had never seen Indians in such a natural state, and the children were an unaccustomed sight.

"Edmonton, our next stop, charmed us all. It has such a fine situation on the river, with its high bluffs. I caught the western fever here. There was such a

tone of hope and pride among all the people we met. They were looking forward to great developments, and, judging from the near past, they will be realised. They showed us fine residential streets, good houses, well-kept lawns, and such an air of comfort and thrift. And we were told that this or that street had been made within the past two or three years. They say that three years makes you an 'old timer' in Edmonton. They are putting all drains, wires, etc., down the lanes, so as not to have to keep digging up their streets as we have to do. They have a telephone system by which you can connect yourself with the person you want to speak to. There are over six thousand 'phones, and it only takes five persons to run the whole thing. Two office men, a girl to answer questions, and a day man and a night man to see that the machinery is kept in order. 'Phones only cost 20 dollars per year. The gentlemen of the city drove us about, and we had lunch on the lawn of the local President N.C. The Parliament Buildings are up about twenty feet, and are in a fine commanding position like those in Ottawa. Everywhere we were astonished at the dressing of the women, such tasteful hats and well-fitting suits. They looked as if they had just returned from Paris with new clothes. I think this struck everybody. All the people—men and women alike—seemed alive to the importance of telling the strangers everything about the country, and much literature was given them.

"When we left Edmonton, and were settling down for the night, we were all looking forward to seeing the mountains next morning, and we asked one of the attendants (with a view to early rising), 'When will we

be getting a good view of the mountains?' and he answered, 'Ladies, from about 3 a.m. until we reach Vancouver, the incitements will only be getting more incitable.' And so they were, for the next two days were the cream of our trip. Some of us, who were very enthusiastic, got permission to ride in the baggage car. There we sat on trunks and boxes in the centre of the car with both doors wide open, and the conductor would tell us which side to watch to get the best views. So we missed nothing of the grandeur of the Rockies, and it was a glorious ride. They stopped long enough at the Albert Canyon for us to get a view into its wonderful depths. We had a drive at Banff, and were side-tracked for the night at Golden, a pretty mining town. So we passed all the beauty spots in daylight. The weather had been delightful until we got to the Glacier, and there it poured rain. However, a number ventured to walk, or ride on ponies, to the Glacier. Fräulein Hansen took the ride, and when she returned she said, "Oh, it was fine; it was not the Glacier, we have many such in Norway; it was the ride." As she had never been on a horse or pony before, we admired her spirit. The Rockies impressed me more than the Selkirks with their softer outlines. I thought of the Rockies as male, and the Selkirks as female in their forms.

"Besides what the visitors enjoyed, we Canadians had a deeper pleasure. This was *our* country, *our* dear land, with its progress, its hope and all its beauty, and our hearts were very, very full.

"In Vancouver we were most kindly treated, and were taken out to New Westminster, and then for a motor

ride, the Council colours flying from our lamps. We landed at their beautiful Stanley Park, and had a picnic lunch. As we were leaving, the ladies gave us all boxes of home-made candies tied with the two blues and a motto in each. They had written them on cards. Mine was, 'Who does not in some sort live to others, does not live much to himself.' These little homely touches seemed to create a very friendly feeling.

"We left about 2 p.m., and the day was lovely for our boat trip, which was most enjoyable. Vancouver, with its beautiful homes, its roses and other bright flowers, seen from the water, and then those sunny Olympic mountains made pictures at every turn, and it was generally agreed that Victoria was the most beautiful place, not counting the open country, that we had visited.

"There was a reception at Government House, given by His Honour the Lieut.-Governor, and a lunch at the Empress Hotel, presided over by the Premier of British Columbia, supported by the two Bishops and other leading men.

"The Seattle Exhibition, though small, was beautiful. The situation is very fine, and the white buildings were simply smothered in flowers. The Canadian Exhibit was much the same as that in Dublin, lacking the butter. The Forestry building, made of great big trees with their bark still on them, was most imposing. We plain members of the Council fared better than the delegates, as we could sometimes slip away, and did not attend every meeting.

"At Salt Lake City we enjoyed a bathe in their

wonderful lake. We had had two days such hot travel, through a region known as the horrible 'American desert,' and the glare of the sand and the desolate look of the country were very trying, so it was most refreshing to plunge into the cool, blue-green water.

"In Colorado Springs, those who went up Pike's Peak were much impressed.

"In the other American cities, Denver, Chicago, and Detroit, they were very kind, taking us in charge when we arrived and looking after our comfort all day, and showing us all they could in a one-day visit. They could not have done more for us. In Chicago we visited Hull House, and Miss Adams told us all about her Settlement Work. There was a great deal of enjoyment in the train all the while we were going, tea-parties and meetings, and quite a bit of fun.

"When saying good-bye, the general expression was, 'We will meet in Rome in 1914.' "

SALMON FLEET OFF THE MOUTH OF THE FRASER





*Memories of the I.C.W. visit to the National Council of Women of Canada, June, 1909. By MRS. OGILVIE GORDON, D.Sc., Ph.D., F.L.S., Corresponding Secretary to I.C.W., 1904-1909. First Vice-President, 1909-1914.*

As an Officer of the International Council of Women, I am privileged to say a few words in remembrance of our wonderful visit to the Canadian National Council of Women.

It was an inspiring and memorable occasion. From the moment of our landing at Quebec to our departure from Montreal we were made to feel ourselves the personal friends of all Canada. The shop-people, the people in the street cars, in the railway trains, on the steamboats, and at the meetings and Receptions, looked their welcome and their interest in us, made place with willingness for the comer from over the seas, and proffered small services with unmistakable pleasure.

In Quebec, Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, greetings were publicly extended to us from the highest dignitaries of office, and we came and went as honoured guests among the homes of private citizens. Art treasures and curios of great value have been collected in many of these homes, and while they give token of the wealth already amassed in Canada, they also show that the successful men of business are careful to nurture in their young country a love of the beautiful and a taste for ennobling forms of art.

A young country! The feeling of ownership in the country is very keen, and the responsibility to build up a country and a people worthy of the highest ideals. The unspent vigour and optimism of youth are everywhere apparent, something also of the elasticity of

youth without its feverish excitabilities, and above all a quiet reserve of strength that may in part be due to the security of the people in the future of their land, but which in greater measure may be traced to the deep sense of Christian faith and Christian duty that pervades every rank of society.

The deliberateness of the men and women suggested a daily habit of waiting for guidance from a Higher Mind, and the faces of the older members of the Canadian National Council of Women at times seemed almost spiritual with the light of that Higher Love under Whose Will they had passed their lives.

The faces of the women of Canada are often in my thoughts, and their kind, frank voices speak to me again of their work for one good cause or another. Whether I think of Canada as it is—with its growing cities and ceaseless river traffic, its expanding railways, its social life, its hospitals, schools and universities, its agricultural colleges and model farms, its Parliament Houses and State celebrations—or if I think of the vast silences of land and water, forest and prairie, from which this new pulse of the British Empire has emerged—these are but passing pictures against whose background I see the friends I made in Canada and the audiences of listening people attentive for any new thought that might come to them from other lands.

To all I would say my heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the happy memories of my June in Canada, and would wish the richest fulfilment of their hopes for the Canada of the future !

MARIA M. OGILVIE GORDON.

*Hon. Corr. Secretary, 1904-1909.*

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ORGANISED 1888.

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